

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

# THE EQUITY

123rd Year, Issue No. 52

Wednesday, December 24, 2003

11 cents

## Voters left confused by polling stations

LEAH IVERSON  
Equity Reporter

**QUYON** • The provincial election may be over with Liberal Charlotte L'Ecuyer named Member of National Assembly for Pontiac, but many Pontiacers are still looking for answers to the many mix-ups at the voting stations on Dec. 8.

When Eric Fletcher of Steele Line in Quyon received his reminder card to vote, he was taken aback by the address of the polling station.

"The reminder card said I was to go to polling station #44 and the address said École Sainte-Marie, 19, rue Church, Pontiac," said Fletcher, adding, "The address said Pontiac, which is our municipality, but they didn't use the town name anywhere."

With Fletcher being a Pontiac resident for nearly two decades, he was almost certain that the location was in Quyon, but admitted that he thought twice about it.

"It was very confusing. There's a Rue Church in many towns so it wasn't helpful at all," he said. "If it made me second guess myself, what about people who are new to the area?"

With his curiosity piqued, Fletcher pursued the issue and went to the Elections Quebec website. He was prompted to insert his postal code and name, at which time Google Earth showed a map of the polling station, this time on Allumette Island.

"My address came up correct but the map was way off," said Fletcher, adding that the website had a disclaimer saying that the maps may not always be correct.

Fletcher went with his instincts and voted at the school in Quyon.

But some of his neighbours weren't so lucky.

Despite only being a few doors down, Fletcher discovered that some of his neighbours were placed in polling station #43 which meant they had to vote in Wolf Lake

(Lac des Loups).

"I was at a social event and some of my neighbours said they had to vote in Wolf Lake for the first time," he said. "It would be at least a 20 km trek there on gravel roads. One neighbour decided not to vote because it was too far for them to travel."

When THE EQUITY placed a call to Elections Quebec, a representative explained that issues involving polling stations are handled by the returning officer for that area, which in the Pontiac is Nicole Gagné.

Gagné's co-worker Francoise Viau spoke on her behalf and confirmed that they had received some complaints regarding the polling stations in Pontiac.

"We had a few calls from the Pontiac area from people who had a hard time finding where to vote and that it took some people too long to get there," said Viau, who works in the returning office in Gatineau. "We are taking their comments seriously and we

will report these concerns to Elections Quebec."

Viau said there have been many changes to the voting procedures and that may be the reason why some neighbours had different polling stations despite their close proximity.

"It all depends on how many people can go to each station. If there's too many people, there's an invisible line drawn and one side will go to one station and the other to a different voting location," she said. "I will take good note of that problem."

In regards to the reminder cards that failed to mention the town names, Viau said they will look into putting the entire full address on each card, including the town and the municipality.

"It's quite bizarre that they aren't using the town name, even in parentheses," said Fletcher. "With such a low-voter turnout already, this just makes things more complicated."



## Giving candy to a baby



Little Addi Belmers anxiously awaits a candy cane from Santa during the Breakfast with Santa Sunday at the Lions Hall in Shawville. Despite snowy weather conditions, more than 100 people came to the hall to enjoy a delicious breakfast.

## Giant Tiger shopping spree awarded to Mansfield resident

CAROLE ST-AUBIN  
Equity Reporter

**SHAWVILLE** • A \$1,000 Giant Tiger shopping spree was awarded to Pontiac Hospital worker Tammy Miljour of Mansfield recently.

Store owner Ken Pack was proud to present Miljour with the giant-sized cheque addressed to her as a memento, along with four convenient purse-sized \$250 gift cards to the regular Clarendon location shopper on Friday.

In the chain-wide Canadian contest that ran from Oct. 20 to Nov. 27, cashiers encouraged customers to register their Giant Tiger sales receipts online for a chance to win the \$1,000 prize.

"I was so excited when Ken called me. I couldn't believe I had won," said Miljour.

Miljour said she only remembered to register two or three of her receipts online, "but I guess it only takes one to win," she happily added.

"I'm done my Christmas shopping, so this is pretty much to spend on myself," said Miljour with a happy chuckle.

There is no time limit on the gift cards and they can be used to purchase anything at Giant Tiger stores throughout Canada.

"As an incentive I gave the cashiers who encour-

aged clients to register online \$10 each time a receipt was submitted," said Pack.

Cashier Cathy Howard was the cashier who reminded Miljour to submit her receipt online. She was also the happy recipient of a \$100 gift card offered by Pack because she had encouraged the submission of the winning receipt.

The Clarendon Giant Tiger has also been giving away a turkey supper valued at \$50 every day for the entire month of December.

"The really fun part of this is that every single turkey dinner drawn so far has been won by a Pontiac resident," said Pack, adding that he is glad for the opportunity to give back to the community that has supported his business through the years.



Clarendon's Giant Tiger store owner Ken Pack, left, proudly presents Tammy Miljour with her \$1,000 prize in the chain-wide Shopping Spree contest. Also pictured is Cathy Howard, right, who received a \$100 gift card for being the cashier who reminded the winning customer to register her receipts online.

## Report says forestry bailout could be on its way

LEAH IVERSON  
Equity Reporter

**PONTIAC** • There may be a glimmer of hope for Pontiac's forest industry.

The Harper government came to the rescue of the auto industry recently, allocating a \$3 billion bailout fund.

According to reports from the *Globe and Mail*, the declining mining and forestry industry could be next in the receiving line.

The article stated that during CTV's Question Period, industry minister Tony Clement announced that a number of industries are "under distress" and "other industrial sectors, other extraction sectors are on the table for our budget coming out on January 27th."

Nicholas Brodeur of the Pontiac Forest Products Producers Board is weary of the news of possible financial aid and said government assistance hasn't helped local forestry businesses in

the past.

"The government already gave \$217 million to the forestry industry last year, and we didn't see any of it," said Brodeur. "By getting a bailout, it makes us more dependent on the government than we already are."

Brodeur said that the money would be better utilized if it went towards the marketing side of the forestry industry.

"We need help on the marketing side of things, like getting loans in order to operate and reducing fees for exportation," he said, adding, "Banks don't want to loan out money anymore if it's going

towards forestry."

Confirmation of the bailout could be announced in next month's anticipated budget. A representative speaking on behalf of MP Lawrence Cannon said, "The government is going to set conditions for all industries to succeed as best as possible," said press secretary Natalie Sarafian.



from the Publisher and Staff

# The power of karaoke brings people together



The karaoke winners sing a song together late Saturday night at the Motel Voyageur. From left are the motel's co-owner, Star Belland, first place winner Jeff Newton, third place winner Trevor Dubeau and second place winner Paula Romain.

**WILBUR MCLEAN**

Equity Editor

**BRYSON** • Bruce Moffitt knows about the power of karaoke.

Moffitt is an American who, up until two years ago, had never been to Canada despite spending a significant amount of time in Minnesota, just a few hours away from Winnipeg.

So what would prompt the Californian to move to La Belle Province? Well it all started with a little karaoke.

Moffitt uploaded videos of his karaoke performances to an online karaoke website and, after receiving a number of compliments from the females on the website, he posted

his e-mail address.

He said he received a number of responses because of his singing ability but the 53-year-old was particularly compelled by one person with whom he began corresponding: Motel Voyageur co-owner, Star Belland.

"I had never met anyone like her before," said

Moffitt.

So, after some long distance correspondence Moffitt decided to travel to Pontiac, Quebec to visit with Belland.

He never returned. "I had never met anyone like her before," he said.

While he has headed back to the U.S. occasionally to handle his affairs, he says his life is now in Pontiac with Belland.

Overhearing Moffitt retelling their story, Belland smiles.

"Oh, it's such a good love story," she says.

"They're going to make a movie about it one day," laughs Moffitt.

On Saturday night inside the Motel Voyageur, more people were brought together by the magic of karaoke.

The mood was positive and the bar was full for the finals of the Motel Voyageur's karaoke competition, which began in September.

Each month until November, four finalists were named who advanced to Saturday's 12-person finale.

Each of the performers were given a chance to sing one song before three judges chose the winners.

In the end, Shawville's Jeff Newton claimed the \$500 first prize.

"It's unbelievable," he said. "There was really good talent here."

The veteran of the Pontiac karaoke circuit previously won the 2005 River Idol competition and says he loves singing.

"It is my passion, my greatest passion."

The second place winner was Paula Romain of Bryson, who took home \$300.

The third place winner was Trevor Dubeau of Calumet Island, who won \$200.

The level of competition was exceptionally high, as

each competitor had talent, energy and an obvious knowledge of his or her song that strengthened each performance.

Other finalists were Isabelle Lance of Calumet Island, Chantal Legault of Thorne, Shawn Bowie of Bryson, Christina Cameron of Bryson, Rhonda O'Blenes of Shawville and Marcel Douaire of Litchfield.

The competition's judges were Paulette Gauthier, Celine Abbott and Eldon Ostrom.

Pleased with the success of their karaoke competition, Belland and Voyageur co-owner Flo Laurence said they had plans for another in the future.

January 2, 2009  
**Happy 65th Birthday "Babe"**  
Love always,  
Claire and family

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
from Al, Julie and Staff  
**Hursty's Bar & Grill**  
368 Main St., Shawville, Que.  
Thank you for your patronage

**HOLIDAY HOURS**  
Dec. 24 - Closed at 2:00 p.m.  
Dec. 25 & 26 - Closed  
Dec. 31 - Restaurant closed at 2:00 p.m.  
January 1 - Closed  
Have a Great Christmas

To Our Friends At Christmas

Thank you for your continued patronage and we look forward to seeing in the new year.  
Wishing you the best of the season ...

**Charleen's Salon**  
5 Campbell Street, Campbell's Bay, QC  
819-648-2486

Blessed Be The Day  
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour which is Christ the Lord.  
— Luke 2:11

As the story of Christmas unfolds anew, we'd like to share in rejoicing with all of you. For your friendship and support, we feel truly blessed.

Angie and Gayle and staff  
**E & A Carpet**  
Victoria Ave., Shawville  
819-647-5808

Lordy, Lordy  
One of Maibec's own turns **FORTY**  
December 27th.  
Happy Birthday  
**Mike Dubeau**  
Love Lynn and Kersten

Finition d'extérieur  
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Exterior Finishing

wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.  
Have a safe and happy holiday.  
Clay, Cathy, Calen and staff.

**GiGi's Café**  
1259 Hwy. 148, Campbell's Bay 819-648-5050

Thanks to all our wonderful customers for your support.  
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
Closed Dec. 24 - Jan. 1



A group of boys have a festive jam during the choir concert Dec. 16 at Onslow Elementary school in Quyon. The concert featured a number of songs and performances by the students, including a Scottish dance where students danced in kilts.

## Onslow students sing in the holidays

**LEAH IVERSON**

Equity Reporter

**QUYON** • There was Santa, elves, princesses and dancing Scotsmen too, at this year's Christmas concert Dec. 16 at Onslow Elementary school in Quyon.

With fun costumes, creative sets and entertaining skits, students pulled out all the stops for the packed crowd of parents and loved ones.

Kindergarten through Grade 6 classes performed a variety of shows throughout

the night, including "The Flea on Santa's Tree" and "Slapshot Santa Scores Again", which had the audience clapping and laughing along.

The Grade 4-5 class even tried out their fancy feet, dancing in kilts to the

Scottish-style skit, "Santy, Where's your Troosers?"

The students also sang in French to a number of traditional Christmas songs, and had the audience join in for the final sing-along to "We Wish you a Merry Christmas" to complete the concert.

## Les Cabines de la Chute's winter charm

**CAROLE ST-AUBIN**

Equity Reporter

**MANSFIELD** • A winding eight kilometre drive on Chemin de la Chute in Mansfield brings you off the beaten track to find six cozy cabins nestled in the forest.

The cabins wait to welcome guests from all over the world who want to get away from the hustle and bustle of life's hectic pace, to the quiet serene peace offered in the natural setting of the log cabins that blend so perfectly with the landscape of their natural surroundings.

Les Cabines de la Chute is also host to transient workers who often stay in the cabins.

"We have welcomed guests from Switzerland, Germany, France, America, and all over Canada," said owner of Les Cabines de la Chute, Daniel Bérubé.

Bérubé built the cabins himself using the lumber extracted from the wooded land upon which they sit.

He started with just three cabins in 2006, and now has six cabins on his land, namely: the bear, the beaver, the moose, the wolf, the

loon, the owl and a lodge named the buck.

"People also rent the larger of the six buildings, the lodge, to host group gatherings, conferences, receptions, and parties," said Bérubé.

There are activities year-round that guests can participate in, such as biking, canoeing and kayaking, dining, fishing, golfing, hiking, visiting historical sites, hunting, whitewater rafting, skating, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, swimming, water tubing, snow tubing, and skiing.

Bérubé anticipated being busy over the next while as the cabins are rented out throughout the holiday season by folks coming to celebrate with family and friends.

A group from the Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi of Campbell's Bay was hosting their Christmas party at the Cabins' lodge on Friday.

The lodge was the perfect place to host a party, according to the group's Director-General, Sylvie Landriault.

She went on to remark on the spaciousness of the lodge, and the peacefulness of the wooded setting.

Landriault said the group would definitely come back to host conferences there in the future.

Earlier this spring, Les Cabines de la Chute was

awarded a Silver ribbon by the Québec Ministry of Tourist.

Les Cabines de la Chute is also rated a three-star residence in a four-star system for the cottages and chalets category.



The Bear is one of the seven cabins nestled along the Coulonge river at Les Cabines de la Chute in Mansfield cozily awaiting to accommodate guests.

**THE EQUITY**  
and THE EQUITY extra

**HOLIDAY HOURS**  
December 24 - 8:00 am - 1 pm  
December 25 & 26 - CLOSED  
December 27 - 9 am - 12 noon  
December 29 & 30 - 8 am - 5 pm  
December 31 - 8:00 am - 1 pm  
January 1 - CLOSED  
January 2 - 8 am - 5 pm

All advertising for the Wednesday, January 7, 2009 issue must be in our office by 4:00 pm on Monday, January 5, 2009.  
(There will be no EQUITY on December 31 and no EQUITY EXTRA on January 2)  
Tel: 819-647-2204 Fax: 647-2206  
133 Centre Street, Shawville, QC

6th Anniversary

In loving memory of  
**Madeleine Gay Latreille**  
Wife of J. René Latreille  
who passed away on Christmas Day 2002.  
A peaceful happy life.  
Husband René, sons Robert, Marc, Jacinthe, widow of Denis and Christiane, widow of Paul.

**THE EQUITY**  
Bridal Supplement  
Coming  
February 11, 2009

All advertising must be in our office by  
**Friday, January 16th.**

Full colour announcements: \$80.00  
Save \$10 on colour paid for before Dec. 12  
Black & white announcements: \$40.00  
includes 50 word writeup, additional words at 15¢ per word. Plus tax.

Married or engaged couples wishing to publish their photo and write-ups, please contact:  
**Katherine at THE EQUITY** by  
Friday, January 16th.  
Tel: 819-647-2204  
Fax: 819-647-2206  
133 Centre Street, Shawville, Quebec J0X 2Y0  
E-mail: display@persona.ca

# Last minute goal earns tie for Midget 'A' Lions

WILBUR MCLEAN  
Equity Editor

**PONTIAC** • Steven Day's goal with just 30 seconds remaining in the game earned a point for the visiting Pontiac Lions Saturday in Aylmer.

Playing the Iceberg, the Lions trailed 2-1 late in the contest before Day scored, with an assist from Jason McGuire to tie the game at two.

The Lions' other goal was scored by Nicolas Durocher, unassisted.

### Stocking filled with goals for Bantams

The Bantam 'CC' Pontiac Lions gave themselves an early Christmas present with a thorough 8-0 thrashing of the Aylmer Voiliers on Saturday in Fort Coulonge.

Branden Alexander had a hat trick to lead the way

offensively while in goal Joshua Horner earned the hat trick.

Other goal scorers for the Lions were Zachary Trudeau, Justin McGuire, Stephane Paré, Hugo Petit and Jack Kelly.

Parker Johnston had two assists while Maxime Fournier, Owen Teevens, Petit, Trudeau, Alexander and McGuire had one apiece.

### Close win for Peeewe 'A'

A third period goal by Clancey Keon assisted by Ayden Hodgins launched the Peeewe 'A' Pontiac Lions to a 2-1 win on Saturday.

The other Lions goal was notched in the second period by Dillon Harrison.

### Atom 'C' Lions move into first

A big 3-1 win against the first place Gatineau

Patriotes on the weekend pushed the Atom 'C' Pontiac Lions into first place.

Up 2-1 down the stretch, goaltender Jack Evans repeatedly denied the Patriotes' attempts to tie the contest.

Kayla Mousseau scored the game winner in the second period with an assist from Sam Belair-Chevalier. With time running out and Gatineau pressing, Alex Therrien scored an empty net goal to clinch the win.

Belair-Chevalier also assisted on that goal.

Belair-Chevalier had a three-point night, scoring Pontiac's first goal of the night in the first period, with an assist from Carter MacDonell.

Post-game, the team's coaches expressed pride in

the team's gutsy performance to move into first place in the division.

### Atom 'B' fit to be tied

The Atom 'B' Pontiac Lions found themselves all tied up with the Loups des Collines Saturday.

The game ended in a 1-1 draw.

Nicolas Boisvert scored the only goal for the Lions. It was assisted by Chevy Larocque and Dany Lamoureux.

Goalie tandem Nicholas Brown and Jeremy Poulin were stellar throughout the contest, allowing only one goal between them.

### Midgets win in blowout

It was season's beatings for the Midget 'CC' Pontiac Lions, who won handily Saturday in Fort Coulonge, defeating the Papineau

Voisins 6-1.

Spencer Pirie's hat trick led the way for the Lions, who also got two goals and an assist from Matthew Alexander.

Colton Keon contributed a goal and an assist.

Other point getters were Kurt Fraser, who had three assists and Nick Francoeur, Ross Cote and Travis Stewart who all had one assist in the one-sided contest.

### Three big wins for Peeewe 'CC'

The Peeewe 'CC' Pontiac Lions posted three wins recently, scoring 18 total

goals in the trio of victories.

Last Saturday, the Lions dumped the Maniwaki Mustangs 8-4.

Michel Boisvert paced the effort for the Lions with three goals.

Danny Fasch scored twice while Matthew Curley and Alexis Gauthier scored once each.

Cris Hearty's sharp passing paid off as the player earned three assists on the day.

Other assists went to Justin Graveline with two, Nolan Peck with one and Simon Corriveau also with one.

# Weather cancels Junior 'B' games

WILBUR MCLEAN  
Equity Editor

**PONTIAC** • The Pontiac Junior 'B's received the weekend off thanks to Mother Nature, with both their contests being cancelled.

Scheduled games were a Friday night matchup in

Perth and a Sunday evening tilt in Arnprior.

Just four out of eight scheduled games in the Metro and Valley divisions of the Eastern Ontario Junior 'B' Hockey League were played over the weekend.

The Pontiac's games had

not been rescheduled as of Monday.

"They have to come back with ice time availability and they haven't done that yet," said Pontiac's General Manager Chris Young.

While sometimes postponed games end up being

cancelled altogether, Young said he anticipated both games being played at some point in the regular season.

"I definitely want to make them up," he said. "Both games are important in the standings and they mean something."

## OVERTIME | LUKE MURPHY

# Rec hockey proving successful



I first addressed this new hockey league back in 2007, the first season it ran. I admit that at the time, I was skeptical about this program. I thought this program was trying to compete with minor hockey, trying to weed out the associations, but I was wrong. I found out that this new program was being set in place as a means to an end, an opportunity for children to continue playing the game they love without the politicians, costs and headaches.

The cost of hockey equipment has gone up, the ever increasing gas prices and dual-working parents have made traveling a problem, and the Pontiac joining the Outaouais Hockey Federation has only added fuel to

the fire between the Pontiac and the province of Quebec.

The Pontiac Recreational Hockey Program (PRH) was created to provide youth in the Pontiac with the opportunity to play structured hockey while developing leadership skills, physical activity, and an appreciation for teamwork.

PRH recognizes a broad range of ability and commitment among its participants, and strives to provide an atmosphere where families can combine roles, therefore bringing families and municipalities together each week by having instruction and competition within the constraints of travel and ice time costs.

With only one session per week, and minimal traveling, this league doesn't interfere with the major aspects of a child's life — family and school.

This league has been developed and implemented

by Pontiac in Motion (PAL), a Quebec government-funded organization where all citizens in the Pontiac are in control of their own activities.

PAL improves the sports and leisure organization and services offered, while maintaining quality, diversity, availability and distribution within the territory. PAL also sets up means that favour healthy living habits, and have physical sport activities available to individuals and families of all walks of life.

So far, the second season of the Pontiac Recreational Hockey Program has been a success. With 45 children participating, up from 30 in year one, there are also ten volunteers to help organize and instruct.

The children play in the Shawville and Fort-Coulonge arenas, two official referees direct the games, and there is an end-

of-the-season organized tournament.

I don't believe this league interferes or competes with the Minor Hockey programs in Shawville and Fort-Coulonge. This new "Pontiac League" is less competitive, but still organized and fun for the children. At a lesser price, and a shorter, less traveled schedule, this league attracts a different clientele than the Minor Hockey League Systems.

And I believe the more opportunities that children have to be active, be around other children in a social environment, and learn and continue to have fun—the better it is for all of the Pontiac.

That's my two cents. What do you think?

Murphy is a former professional hockey player who now resides in Shawville. Contact him at news@the-equity.ca

# A peek inside neighbours' holiday homes

LEAH IVERSON  
Equity Reporter

**PONTIAC** • Did you ever wonder what's inside your neighbours' homes? Are you curious to see how others decorate for the holiday season?

If so, you are not alone.

Many locals got to put their curiosity to rest Dec. 17 after being invited to take a look into the homes of four Pontiac couples during the 13th annual House Tour.

The tour, hosted by the St. Paul Anglican Young Women's Association (AYWA), led large groups of residents and visitors to the residences of Shawville homeowners Bill and Susan McCleary and Richard and Carolyn Meisner, David and Debbie Moore of Clarendon and Sid and Judy Stephens of Bristol.

When first walking in, guests were greeted by the family's two lovable dogs. In heading to kitchen, visitors could see Bill cooking some delicious chili and cornbread, dressed in a festive apron and Santa hat.

The warmth and friendliness continued to the Meisner's, who volunteered to join the annual tour.

"It's a fundraiser for the church and I'm involved with the AYWA, so I decided that instead of asking others to participate, that I should volunteer," said Carolyn Meisner, whose Christmas village pieces garnered a lot of attention. "It's been great. I decorate a lot already for my family who come home for Christmas so I didn't

inventive ways to display decorations."

Telford's friend Norma More also brought her daughter along for some festive fun and bonding time, and the 14-year-old enjoyed every moment.

"This is my first time coming to the tour and it's really cool," said daughter Hannah. "It's nice to see all the decorations. I really love Christmas."

Speaking of the decorations, this year's participants pulled out all the stops, from the Christmas lights outside, to the lit trees and enormous supply of decorations inside.

Each home was unique in its own way. The beautiful home owned by the McCleary's was elegantly decorated, and the ambiance matched perfectly.

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Bill McCleary stirs his homemade chili and cornbread during the House Tour Dec. 17. Bill and wife Susan were one of the couples who opened the doors to guests during the tour.

have to do much extra."

The Moore residence went a bit unconventional for their decorations, lining up Christmas figures on the stairs and even hanging gourds from the walls.

But the dim candlelit rooms in the cherry-stained log house were a picture-perfect Christmas vision.

Debbie Moore had attended tours in the past, and enjoyed trading places and playing host for the night.

"I like to decorate so I was happy to do it when they asked me to sign up," she

said.

She added that in addition to showing neighbours her house, the tour also allowed her to catch up with old friends.

"I know most of the people here tonight. I even saw someone that used to rent my house and a woman that used to babysit my kids."

After the tour was complete, the night was far from over. Guests then headed to the St. Paul Anglican Hall in Shawville for refreshments and to share their Christmas discoveries of the night.

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Season's Greetings & Many Thanks

Wishing you loads of joy and laughter, throughout the Holiday Season and after.

**ELLARD KENNEDY**  
RÉPARATIONS / REPAIRS

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Tel.: 819-458-2853 Fax: 819-458-1973

Greetings From The North Pole ... And From Us, Too!

Trevor Stevens, Les Atkinson, Brian Bruce, André Côté, Daren Amyot, Chris Beimers, Wayne Bohart, Melanie Duchesne, Eric Morrissette and Ryan Yach

We've really enjoyed serving you this past year and look forward to the year to come. Happy New Year to all our customers and neighbors.

**Season Auto Parts Extra**  
Hwy. 148, Shawville, Que. 819-647-2261

**WITH THANKS FOR YOUR TRUST**

Randy Egdes and Kollbec Chrysler wish you Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! You can reach Randy at 613-299-2073

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1-866-568-1414  
www.kollbec.com

**\$500. REWARD**

For information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) who stole ATVs and trailers on November 22, 2008.

**Campbell's POLARIS**

75 Hwy 148, Shawville, QC 819-647-5581

It's a holiday tradition to wish a Merry Christmas to everyone who's stopped by to see us this year. It's been a pleasure serving you.

**Happy Holidays Hardy Plants**

Shawville 647-2680

Old-fashioned Christmas Wishes

Here's hoping that this holiday season is just like the ones you used to know. Thank you for showing us old-fashioned loyalty and goodwill this year.

Have a safe and happy holiday season  
Brian and Janet Rogers and staff  
**J & J Gas Bar & Convenience**  
Hwy. 148, Shawville 819-647-2430

the taxsmith .com

**Happy Holidays And Many Happy Returns**

Here's hoping your season adds up to something truly wonderful for you and yours!  
**Peter B. Smith, B.Sc., CGA**  
Certified General Accountant

**SMITH PORTER HÉTU**  
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389 Main Street, Shawville, QC 647-2403

The staff at Campbell's Polaris would like to thank all our valued customers for their continued support and we look forward to seeing you in 2009.

Merry Christmas

**Campbell's POLARIS**

**POLARIS SNOWMOBILES & A.T.V.**  
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75 Hwy 148, Shawville, Que. J0X 2V0 819-647-5581

**DON'T DELAY**

**2008 Birth Announcements**

for the January 7, 2009 edition of **THE EQUITY**

**SAMPLE**

THE EQUITY is planning a special birth announcement spread, featuring photos of babies born in 2008 with announcements, for the issue of Jan. 7, 2009.

Advertisement: Includes a one column (1 1/2" wide) photo and 50 word write-up. Additional words welcome at 15c (plus taxes) per word.

Cost: Photo in colour \$39.49 + \$2.37 GST + \$3.14 QST = \$45.00.  
Photo in black and white: \$30.72 + \$1.84 GST + \$2.44 QST = \$35.00.

Payment: All announcements must be prepaid. Cheques payable to Pontiac Printshop Ltd.

Information: Photos may be of any size, reduction or enlargement will be made to adjust the size to 1 1/2". Photos may be picked up after January 7, 2009, or, enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and it will be returned.

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Shawville, Quebec J0X 2Y0  
Or e-mail: display@persona  
Attention: Katherine Hynes  
819-647-2204

Tessa Barton  
Dickson/Barton - Leslie, Jason, and big brother Owen Ross are thrilled to announce the birth of Tessa James "Ladybug" Barton, born February 14th, 2008 at the Maison des Naissances in Gatineau. Our wonderful midwives helped us bring her into the world as the sun was rising on her Oma's birthday. Proud grandparents are Heather Dickson and Greg Hayley (Oma & Opa) of Shawville, Ross Dickson and Diana Bracegrilde of Perth, and Austin and Geraldine Barton of Nepean. Leslie, Jason, Owen and Tessa live in Wakefield.

# OPINION

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## Moose-mas

Leah Iverson, THE EQUITY

## ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM | Celebrating our Pontiac Christmas

One thing about snowstorms: when they clear, here in the countryside we're left with beauty. Indeed, in our hills and woodlands, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

Here at Spiritwood, evergreens are laden with puffs of snow, while fenceposts sport a merry white cap. Looking over the fields from our upstairs windows presents us with a swirling, magical world. From that vantage point, skills of snow, caught by the wind, dance above blanketed fields.

Our horses, Whiskey and Crescent, plough through the drifts to dine at their hay feeder. Again from our second-floor window, we observe how these beasts keep to well-worn trails through the pasture. Why expend unnecessary energy creating new paths, when reworking previously opened trails is less onerous?

### The Christmas tree

Snowshoeing into the back meadows to gather our Christmas tree is always a highlight of our Spiritwood celebrations. This year, several friends joined us to cut their tree, too, and our neighbours Chuck Lalonde and Amber Walpole added to everyone's delight. Generously offering their Canadian horse and homemade sleigh as conveyance, people were hauled through our back pastures, cuddled into warm, long-haired bearskin throws.

Getting off the sleigh to cut the trees proved hilarious — and somewhat challenging. Those of us not wearing snowshoes on the sleigh were plunged into at least knee-high snow. Laughing, I waded over to help Amber check out their tree, and, while she returned to take control of the reins and sleigh, Chuck almost disappeared into the snow while cutting their spruce. It proved quite a job to cut the trees: their lower branches were buried in the drifts. Because we ride throughout our property, we'd requested trunks be cut close to the ground. Little had we thought this would prove so onerous! A cheer went up from the three of us when the tree succumbed to Chuck's efforts. Hauling it to the sleigh, the three of us were delighted to transport it home — with the horse not quite dashing through the deep, deep snow.

### Memories made

For me, this is what Christmas is all about: being with friends and creating special times which morph into beautiful, cheering memories. For those of us without children or who are separated from family members scattered throughout the world, friends make Christmas special.

And here in the Ottawa Valley, the parties really are something special. That's because of the mix of English, French and Irish songs, dance and merriment which flavour the gatherings.

One of my closest friends is an immigrant from England, like me. Her storytelling and singing of old-time country tunes have nurtured and celebrated our shared culture over the years. Thanks to her, she helps me recall my grandparents' traditions, keeping memories of my roots "back home" alive.

### Kitchen parties

Another rollicking Christmas party ended where all the best gatherings do: in the kitchen. French songs roused the blood, getting us all clapping and singing together in the heritage farmhouse's country kitchen. Literally standing in a circle with the wood stove warming our backs, our dancing feet and laughter surely shook the rafters.

### Old time fiddling

And then there's our Valley fiddling, that wonderful blend where fiddles, guitars and piano get toes a-tapping. Doug Schwartz's birthday party a few weeks ago got everyone who attended well into the holiday spirit. That party maintained a true taste of tradition, too, because all of us eagerly anticipated one of our area's most amazing events: the "Pontiac Lunch."

The first Pontiac Lunch I witnessed was back in 1989. It was held at Pine Lodge during their annual fiddling competition, where fiddlers from the Valley gathered to play, stepdance, and often do both at once. It bogged my mind, seeing how these talented musicians not only played up a storm, but danced one, too, simultaneously. Now, that's truly feeling the music! But I digress... Back to the Pontiac Lunch.

## Looking back at 2008

In our first issue of 2008, this space looked at a half dozen issues that THE EQUITY perceived were prominent in Pontiac for this year. So, with the year just about concluded it makes sense to review some of the items we spoke about 12 months ago.

### The mills

Yes, indeed, the first "issue to watch" for 2008 that we named was Pontiac's mills. We wrote that they were "hurting" and questioned whether the U.S. housing market's downturn would have longer term ramifications. Indeed, they did. Last fall, Pontiac experienced its worst series of bad news in a long time when Smurfit-Stone, Maibec and Produits Forestiers Pontiac mills all ceased operations within two weeks of one another.

### Danford Lake landfill

Somewhat humorously, THE EQUITY wrote that the landfill issue "could finally be put to rest in the coming months" back in January. Instead, the proposed Danford Lake landfill is an issue as vibrant as ever as there is still no word from the provincial government about its approval. Now, with the deadline to close trench landfills in Pontiac less than two weeks away, it'll be interesting to see what happens to Pontiac's trash.

### Uranium mining

A hot-button issue in 2007, the issue of uranium mining seemed relatively quiet this year. A handful of companies, with one being exceptionally prominent, stated an interest in uranium mining in Pontiac and had begun purchasing claims.

There was speculation when these companies first began exploring the area that it was all a ploy to boost their stock value for shareholders. Indeed, the primary company admitted that despite being a uranium mining firm it had never actually mined uranium.

### Federal election

As we hesitantly predicted, there was a federal election in 2008. The question of whether Pontiac MP Lawrence Cannon would still have the support of locals if an election occurred was answered clearly, as he won with a solid margin of support in the riding and has since been named to one of the most prominent ministerial posts, foreign affairs.

### Tourism

THE EQUITY specifically mentioned the Chutes Coulonge being approved for funding to expand their tourist attractions as one reason to follow tourism in 2008 and in the past year the Chutes made a number of significant additions that they hope will significantly increase the amount of visitors to their site.

Also notably, the Cabines des la Chute in Mansfield received a provincial award for their operation, proving there are some truly top-notch tourist attractions in Pontiac.

### The Ottawa Senators

After the Senators got off to a blazing start in the 2007-2008 regular season, we pondered whether the team could "parlay their strong showing so far this season into a Stanley Cup championship". Well, we all know what happened to that.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

WM



Katherine Fletcher

How amazing it was to witness for the very first time! Pine Lodge generously said the price of admission to this wonderful Valley event was simply to bring a donation for the lunch. Well! Little did my husband Eric and I think we'd see two many-metre-long tables bedecked with an astonishing array of food — at midnight!

The memory of it still stirs the mind. No, it wasn't Christmas, but it speaks of our Pontiac traditions, and speaks to the distance folks used to travel, by horse and wagon in earlier times. Then, such a lunch would not only have provided the energy for more dancing and playing... It would also give sustenance to those who would, in the wee cold hours of the morning, bundle up in their wagon or sleigh, and head home through the rough roads and open, chilly countryside. Tradition!

### Merry Christmas!

How will you spend Christmas this year? I hope it is with new friends and old.

Most definitely, this time of year can be fraught with stress. It can be a nightmare of commercialism, consumerism and present-buying. And these days in the Pontiac, this year there is the extra burden of worry due to mill closures and unemployment.

Yes, the new year promises uncertainty. This is why, in my view, encouraging a clear sense of supportive, welcoming community is so crucial. And, let's not forget, so much fun.

This Christmas, it is my hope you can find joy and peace in what we all share: the comfort of friends and the beauty of nature — both surround each and every one of us, right here in our Pontiac hills and dales.

Katherine Fletcher is an author and freelance writer.

## Young girl gives the gift of hair

LEAH IVERSON

Equity Reporter  
 SHAWVILLE • Santa won't have any trouble deciding if nine year old Erika Richardson has been naughty or nice this Christmas.

The Shawville girl will certainly make the nice list, after courageously chopping off her long locks to give a sick child a chance to have hair again.

"She decided to grow her hair long and we talked about donating it one day," said mom Kaara Richardson. "We know people suffering from cancer and we wanted to give it to a Canadian charity and found the Angel Hair for Kids in Toronto."

Angel Hair for Kids makes wigs for children who lost their hair as a result of chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

With the charity decided, Erika had a date with the scissors.

As she sat in her auntie Krista Brown's hairdressing chair, the Dr. S.E. McDowell student braced herself for the big cut.

"I knew it was going to happen so I was ready," she said.

After the 11.5 inches was cut, Erika held ponytails of her hair in her hand and checked out her new look.

"I felt lighter," she said. "It was weird at first but then I started to like it."

While mom Kaara beamed with pride at her daughter's generous act of kindness, Erika



Submitted photo

Shawville's Erika Richardson holds up the 11.5 inches worth of hair that she had cut off recently in order to make wigs for kids with cancer. The nine-year-old plans to grow her hair out again so she can chop it off and help even more kids.

immediately started thinking about donating again in coming years.

"It feels really good to know I've helped out kids," she said. "I guarantee I'll do it again."

## 150th anniversary kick-off for Municipality of Waltham

CAROLE ST-AUBIN

Equity Reporter  
 WALTHAM • Planning for Waltham's 150th anniversary is well under way.

"It was during a walk on the PPJ trail with our grandson that my wife realized that we were about to reach our 150th anniversary," said Waltham Mayor, Wayne Venne.

A meeting was then held where a committee and several sub-committees were formed to spearhead the planning of their anniversary celebrations, with Phil Perry as chairman.

The group decided to bring in the new year with a New Year's Eve dance held at their town hall.

"We've made good progress in our planning and we've had a great response so far. We put posters out and were just about to contact the media to advertise the party but we didn't have time to do so, because the event was quickly sold out," Venne told THE EQUITY.

The 150 tickets sold will fill the hall to its maximum capacity.

"We hope to have the entire day devoted to our local heritage. Though the event is still in the

planning stage, we have chosen the weekend of July 4 and 5 for the highlight of our celebration," said Venne.

The Historical committee, chaired by Roger Perry, intends to compile and bring the history of the railroad, the old bridge, local logging history, the power generating station, as well as the three churches that have existed in Waltham, into focus.

"Any information or photos that the public can submit would be a valued contribution," added Venne.

Various organizations and Church communities including Waltham's volunteer fire department, and the power station of Brookfield Renewable Energy have gotten on board the project to help and support the municipality for the planned events.

"We would also hope to organize a ball tournament with a dance; a sponsorship of tree planting in the Paul Ryan park, where the sponsors could dedicate a family tree; as well as a less labour-intensive outdoor church service day," concluded Venne who is looking forward to the celebrations.

## Carole St-Aubin | A changing Christmas

As the years go by I am somewhat surprised to realize that our celebration of Christmas still undergoes many changes.

Though we have built our own traditions with our family and extended families, we still often find ourselves 'winging it' as it comes along.

While I am flexible to change for the most part, there are some things however that I vow never to let slip away from me.

One of my traditions includes Christmas baking, but to be honest that is one thing that will have to undergo the aforementioned changes this year. I just haven't had much time for it. Sorry guys!

I do love the family gatherings of course, mainly because it feels great to actually take the time to sit with your kin and not have to worry about a pressing agenda.

The preparation of our Christmas feast in the maternal kitchen, and of course watching the children tear into their gifts knowing it's just what they wanted, are also counted among my favourite seasonal activities.

But it's the feeling, the atmosphere that lingers from these activities that I enjoy most. I can't see myself ever being without them.

And late at night, after the

hustle and bustle, after the fuss and frolic, the stuffing of bellies, and cleaning of dishes, after the picking up of paper, and boxes, and bows; I like to sit in the dark by myself and light up the Christmas tree to listen to the silence and bask in the peace of the season.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend that peaceful feeling and wish you all a Merry Christmas filled with many favourite family traditions of your own, as well as a healthy and prosperous New Year.



## Leah Iverson | A true open house

It was just another manic Monday. My fingers were on fire as I quickly typed, determined to beat the clock and make my 5 p.m. story deadline.

When the workday was done, I wanted nothing more than to clock-out mentally and stretch my legs while watching Judge Judy.

But a journalist's work is never done.

That night I was scheduled to cover the fifth annual Home Tour, organized by the Quyon United Pastoral Charge. So off I went, clutching my notepad, camera and snow scraper (see, I'm learning).

I must admit, I had no idea what to expect from such an assignment. When I arrived at the first house on my route, I sat in the car puzzled.

Do I knock on the door? What do I say when I get inside? If I

walk around alone, will they think I'm snooping? If so, is there someone who can show me around?

As the heat in the car quickly vanished, I decided to go find out for myself.

When I first walked in the Quyon home of Mayor Eddie McCann and wife Dianne, the smell of scented candles and burning logs on the fire made me feel as if I was walking into my own family's house.

As I toured the beautiful home and chatted with the McCann family, I never felt like a visitor. They were so open, I truly felt invited.

My next stop was to the home of Tammy and Eric Erwin in Luskville.

I can honestly say, I've never seen a more festive home in my life.

With Tammy's joyful personality combined with decoration after decoration in every inch of the house, I couldn't help but to get in the spirit.

My final destination turned out to be a double viewing pleasure.

The inviting home of Roy and Edith Nugent in Luskville was filled with people enjoying the decorations. Edith immediately offered me a drink. I began to realize that the air of comfort and warmth came not only from the home itself, but also from the owners.

Downstairs, the home of Lorraine Nugent and Mitch Warden was also decked out for

the occasion. Host Lorraine seemed right in her element, chatting and laughing with guests as she showed them around.

When it came time for me to head back home, I actually felt a bit disappointed.

I loved meeting the homeowners, and appreciated how open and friendly they were to all the guests.

I enjoyed the tour so much that I attended it the following week in Shawville.

This time I was excited to take my tour, and comfortable meeting more people from the Pontiac.

Carolyn Meisner's smile and Bill and Susan McCleary's home cooked cornbread and chili made the night memorable. I even got to peek inside the beautiful log house of my co-worker Dave Moore and his wife Debbie.

And while I can't see any of my city slicker friends opening their homes to the public (probably in fear of getting robbed), I really respect the Pontiac's willingness to chat with friends and welcome new faces into their residences.

As for the decorations, it was obvious how much time and energy was spent putting up the various lights, ornaments and Christmas items.

Even the Grinch himself would stop and take a look. Well done!



## Letters to the editor

THE EQUITY welcomes letters to the editor from our readers.

Short letters are more likely to be chosen for publication, but the use of any material is at the discretion of the editor.

The editor reserves the right to edit letters

to meet space requirements, for clarity, or to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy.

E-mail letters are accepted at news@theequity.ca and must bear the complete name, address and daytime phone number of the writer.

The address and phone number will not be printed. Letters published do not necessarily reflect the editorial policies of THE EQUITY.

# 125 years of news from the Pontiac

## THE WAY WE WERE

Compiled by Heather Alberti-Dickson Publisher

### 25 Years Ago

December 28, 1983  
MISSING FROM OUR FILES.

### 50 Years Ago

January 1, 1959  
MISSING FROM OUR FILES.

### 75 Years Ago

December 28, 1933  
**LOCAL NEWS:** The annual Christmas Supper of the United Church was enjoyed by a large crowd in spite of the weather, the church being filled. The ladies had provided bountifully for the occasion with a choice supper under the leadership of the Woman's Association headed by Mrs. J.R.

McDowell. The first hockey match of the season will be played at Shawville Arena on Friday night of this week when a team from Wyman will meet the local intermediates.

Mr. Albert Chisnell has been appointed Bailiff of the Superior Court for the district of Pontiac.

John Proudfoot, one of the oldest and best known residents of Fort Coulonge and a brother-in-law of the late Robert Dollard, former head of the famous steamship line of that name, died Dec. 21 at the Ottawa Civic Hospital in his 85th year.

Three weeks ago Mr. Proudfoot slipped and fell on the street in Fort Coulonge, fracturing one leg.

He was removed to the Civic hospital for treat-

ment, but complications set in and brought about his death.

For many years Mr. Proudfoot had operated a lumber mill in Fort Coulonge and was widely known up and down the Ottawa Valley.

His father before him, the late Alexander Proudfoot also operated a lumber mill and the name of Proudfoot had for many years been closely associated with that industry in the district.

He had been retired from active interest in business for some years, in his earlier days, Mr. Proudfoot took an active and leading interest in the affairs of the community in which he lived.

He sat for several terms on the council of Fort Coulonge and was a member of the Masonic Lodge.

He attended the Presbyterian Church.

The remains were conveyed to his late home at Fort Coulonge on Friday evening and the funeral was held on Sunday afternoon to the Protestant cemetery with a large number of acquaintances and friends of long standing in attendance.

### 100 Years Ago

December 31, 1908  
**LOCAL NEWS:** Mr. Wm. Maitland, late of Portage du Fort, has purchased the barbering business and equipment of Mr. Frank Thompson, who intends removing to his old home in Hastings County.

Mr. Jas. R. Horner has sold his property in town

to Mr. H. Armstrong and will shortly relinquish the postmastership in favour of that gentleman.

About 300 persons attended the old-time tea meeting in the Methodist Church on Christmas night, despite the fact that it was not at all pleasant for an outing, especially for driving, a constant downfall of snow during the day making the roads heavy for driving.

Mr. James Hurdman, of Eardley, uncle of Dr. T.H. Hurdman of Bryson, passed away on Saturday last, aged 84 years.

Born at Wyman Dec. 15 to Mr. and Mrs. Jas. A. Graham, a son. Both well.

We are taking this opportunity of wishing our many hundreds of customers A Happy and Prosperous New Year and to thank them for the many kindnesses and courtesies extended to us during the past year and trust by diligent attention to your wishes to merit a continuance of those favors, G.F. Hodgins.

1908 — Our last Ad. And we want to thank our

friends for their patronage and continued goodwill. Despite the fact that this has been a bad year, and our farmers in hard luck - crop failure - very dry season - poor grass and scarcity of fodder for winter - yet our business for the year shows a small increase.

Almost every merchant in the country reports a decrease.

Hence we are proud of even a small gain over last year, and here record our deep appreciation to all our customers.

We sincerely hope that the New Year will bring better things for our people; that next season's crop may be an abundant one, and that good times, health and happiness may be yours for 1909. W. A. Hodgins.

**It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year!**  
In this season of hope, beauty, faith and goodwill, we feel truly blessed to have friends and neighbours like you, and hope that you enjoy a holiday that's as wonderful as you are, Merry Christmas!  
YOUR TIRE AND AUTO BODY SHOP  
**TRUDEAU COLLISION**  
Hwy 148, Quyon, QC 819-458-2942

Many thanks to all our loyal customers  
Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year from  
**Gil Cluff Septic Service**  
(Prop. Lorraine Cluff)  
Messages 647-5306  
Ladysmith, Qué.  
J0X 2A0

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year  
**DOCTEUR VTT plus MARINE**  
Hours  
Mon. - Wed. 9-6  
Thurs. & Fri. 9-8  
Sat. 9:30-5  
Open Dec. 24 9-3  
Closed Dec. 25 & Jan. 1  
Open Dec. 26 12-4  
2920 Hwy 148, Luskville, QC 819-455-2333

Season's Greetings  
May the sounds of celebration and good cheer surround you and yours this holiday. Thanks for your loyal patronage.  
from  
**Pontiac Dairy and Staff**  
Shawville, Quebec 647-2434

Wishing You Every Happiness This Holiday Season  
Lots of good friends and good times, too is our Christmas wish for you...  
Plus lots of great gifts and wonderful food. To put you in the festive mood  
And when at last the holiday's through... May our warm wishes remain with you!  
**W.J. Hayes and Sons**  
Funeral Directors  
Shawville and Quyon  
647-2221

## 100 quilts for cancer patients

### More than 35 Victoria's Quilts members in Pontiac

CAROLE ST-AUBIN  
Equity Reporter  
SHAWVILLE • The Shawville chapter of Victoria's Quilts, a group who makes quilts for cancer patients, was the first one to start up in Quebec.

“We've gotten such a wonderful response, such warm thank you's from the patients who have received them.”

—Joan Conrod  
Member of  
Victoria's Quilts

They have donated 100 quilts within the Pontiac-Gatineau area in the course of their two-year existence.

The idea of making the quilts originated in the U.S. in 1998 by a woman whose sister-in-law often said she was cold during her chemotherapy treatments.

The group was named Victoria's Quilts in memory of the sister-in-law who later died.

Upon learning of this wonderful work, Betty Giffin of Ottawa decided to bring the idea to Canada.

In its first year, the Canadian chapter of Victoria's Quilts distributed 16 quilts to cancer patients.

Today more than 800 volunteers meet in 18 branches across Canada.

Each month, some 250 quilts are distributed across the country.

“Patients are usually referred to us through the website,” said Joan Conrod, one of the Pontiac members.

The Pontiac group, now at least 35 members strong, meets every third Tuesday of the month between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the Shawville United Church hall.

It usually takes the group about a half hour to set up their tables, sewing machines, quilting racks, and ironing stations before

they can get to their different tasks.

“While some members cut out fabric pieces or knot the quilts, others are busy quilting, sewing or ironing,” said Conrod.

The quilts are 100 per cent cotton and lined with flannelette for that extra warmth. A large bag with an attached pocket for a book accompanies each quilt to make them easier to carry.

“We've gotten such a wonderful response, such warm thank you's from the patients who have received them,” said Conrod, who is proud to contribute to that little bit of comfort to cancer

patients enduring the pain and distress of the treatments and the illness itself.

The raffle of a quilt at the Shawville Fair and being sponsors for one day of the Pontiac Community Players' Cabaret 4-day production hosted at the Shawville R.A. centre this past November, were fundraising events that the group held earlier this year.

These events, along with the support of various church and service clubs in the area, are a few ways the group is able to raise the money necessary to purchase the fabrics and supplies needed for their benevolent endeavours.

## Former Pontiacer's new book

CAROLE ST-AUBIN  
Equity Reporter  
PONTIAC • Eighty-four-year-old Laura Harris Stanger, formerly of Starks Corners, recently published a book called *Pastures Green*, an account of a family's life dating back to 1823 when they first arrived to Canada from Scotland.

“The book is a memorial to the five generations and a legacy to the generations to come,” said Harris Stanger.

The story spanning five generations chronicles the settling and integration of

the Stark, Harris, Olmstead, Barber, Wilson, Hobbs, Elliott, Smith, Bradley, Campbell, Armstrong, Sly, Routliffe, Stanger, Devine, and Dubé families from the Ottawa Valley.

“It's about how these early pioneers carved their way into the bushes of the Shawville area,” said Harris Stanger who now lives in Nepean, Ont.

Harris Stanger, who'd been away from her hometown since enlisting in the Canadian Air Forces at the age of 18, married Corporal Charles Stanger three years

later. The couple lived in various places across Canada, and together they raised two children, Judith who lives in Kitchener, Ont. and son John who lives in Ottawa.

“Since I am the oldest person in the family, I thought it was important to put something together,” said Harris Stanger.

*Pastures Green's* 177 pages are filled with interesting pictures, memories and anecdotes that have been contributed to by other family members.

“The old homestead in

Starks Corners, which is still standing today, is pictured on the front cover as it was before the 1966 New Year's Eve fire destroyed all of the permanent farm buildings,” said Harris Stanger, who visited the area with a friend a few weeks ago when she met with friends and relatives for a book signing.

“It's always a trip down memory lane when I visit,” she said.

In her previous book, *A Magical Visit to Hodgepodge*, written for and illustrated by her great-grandchildren, Harris

Stanger gives an anecdotal recollection of growing up on a farm 80 years ago.

Mary Montague, Harris Stanger's cousin, who is in charge of production and book orders, is also the artist who did the painting featured on the back cover of *A Magical Visit to Hodgepodge*, which is a rendition of the old Harris Stanger homestead.

*Pastures Green* will be available at THE EQUITY in the new year. e books can also be obtained by calling 613-228-3833.

You can also email m3m@rogers.com

## \$1,596 raised for Hospital's dialysis machine

CAROLE ST-AUBIN  
Equity Reporter  
SHAWVILLE • On Dec. 15 a cheque for \$1,596 was presented to the Pontiac Community Hospital Foundation's dialysis fund, the Order of the Eastern Star's chosen charity of the year.

The Order of the Eastern Star is a large fraternal organization to which both men and women belong.

They actively support both local and provincial charities with funds raised through community events.

This group, to which both men and women can belong, is not a religious group.

They encourage loyalty to one's own beliefs, family, country and community.

To become a member of the organization men must be Master Masons in good

standing, and women must be aged 18 or over and be a close family member of a Master Mason (living or deceased).

Every year the Shawville chapter, with a current count of approximately 35 members, elects a Worthy Matron who becomes the presiding officer and a Worthy Patron, a Master Mason who provides general supervision.

The Worthy Matron is in charge of organizing the year's fundraising events.

Some of the events hosted by the group throughout the year included card parties, a Mother's Day tea, where sandwiches and desserts were served, a sale of raffle tickets for a variety of hand-crafted and gift items, a turkey supper, as well as donations by the families of members.

The chosen charity for 2009 is the Epilepsy Research Society in Ottawa.

“It's a disease that many people are affected by, I have a family member who suffers with the illness,” said this year's Worthy Matron, Betty Johnson.

Of the events planned for the 2009 fundraising charity the group is planning to host a card party, a turkey

potpie dinner, a Jiggs dinner (a traditional Newfoundland dish) in the spring, and a Mother's Day tea in May.

## Shawville and Fort Coulonge still in the running for Hockeyville 2009

CAROLE ST-AUBIN  
Equity Reporter  
PONTIAC • Shawville and Fort Coulonge are counted among the 39 entries of almost 100 for the province of Quebec alone still in the running for the nation-wide coveted Kraft Hockeyville title.

For the fourth consecutive year Kraft Canada, CBC Television, the National Hockey League

and the NHL Player's Association are in search of the community best displaying their strong connection to hockey.

Entries had to be submitted with a story of 500 words detailing their community spirit and passion for hockey with up to three photos for an online profile.

The winner will be crowned Kraft Hockeyville 2009's ultimate hockey

community, and will get to host an NHL pre-season game in their community arena.

Also, CBC Hockey Night in Canada will visit the winning community, and they will receive \$100,000 from Kraft to upgrade their arena.

The top four remaining communities are awarded \$25,000 from Kraft to upgrade their arena, and a

CBC Hockey Night in Canada broadcast from their community.

Past winners of the title were Roberval, Que. in 2008, North Bay, Ont. in 2007, and Salmon River, NS, in 2006.

“We had two people read more than 800 submitted stories, and the 10 finalists will be notified by Dec. 22, but will be sworn to secrecy until the airing of

the finalists begins on January 14,” according to a Kraft Canada media spokesperson.

Voting to determine the top five communities will begin following the Top 10 show aired on CBC's Kraft Hockeyville on Jan. 14.

CBC will then begin airing the first of the top five communities on CBC's Hockey Night in Canada on Jan. 24.

Centre de santé et de services sociaux du Pontiac

The Board of Directors, the Administration and Management would like to thank the staff and the doctors for their support, professionalism and concern in providing services to the clientele.

A special thank you to the volunteers, network partners and community organizations for their involvement and devotion.

Merry Christmas and a New Year of health, happiness and prosperity!

24  
24  
24

# Dinner and a play

CAROLE ST-AUBIN

*Equity Reporter*  
**OTTER LAKE** • The 43 students of École Ste-Marie in Otter Lake put on a small play after they enjoyed their Christmas dinner at the R.A. Hall on Monday.

The hall was festively decorated by Eileen Sheppard with streaming red and green fabric ribbons, strings of lights and an ten-foot tree in the middle of the hall.

With the help of several Otter Lake organizations including the volunteer fire department, the Golden Age Club, Otter Lake's Red Hat Society, the Ste-Marie teachers and the Otter Lake Parents Committee, the children were treated to a warm turkey dinner with all the trimmings.

"The play is our way of saying thank you to everyone who contributed," said parents' committee member

Nicole Jeaurond.

The skits were conceived and played out by the older kids themselves, while the teachers participated with the younger children.

Approximately 180 people attended the dinner and enjoyed the skits and traditional Christmas carols.

The \$900 raised at the event is going toward the purchase winter play equipment for the children, according to Jeaurond.



The pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students of École Ste-Marie put on a skit as little robotic elves at their community Christmas dinner event held at the Otter Lake R.A. hall on Monday.

# See what's brewing in Portage du Fort

LEAH IVERSON

*Equity Reporter*  
**PORTAGE DU FORT** • With the cold and snowy weather in full effect, there's nothing like finding solace in a warm house and enjoying a hot cup of coffee.

If you're on the road and unable to make it yourself, there's a new shop in Portage du Fort that's guaranteed to always keep a fresh pot brewing.

Located beside St. James the Greater on Church Street in Portage, Lily's Wee Bits & Bites is the perfect spot to grab a coffee and even a quick bite to eat. You might even pick up some great finds on your way out.

Lilias Hewitt is the owner of the coffee shop and is excited to offer something convenient and welcoming to Pontiacers.

"I thought we needed another coffee shop in the area where people could get something quick to go or sit inside and enjoy some coffee or snacks," said Hewitt, who lives above the shop.

"It's also a gift shop where people can pick up shower gifts, baby items, gift wrap and cards without having to go out of town to buy them."

The warm and inviting shop seats 20 comfortably and Hewitt plans to offer outdoor seating in the summer as well.

In addition to serving fresh coffee, tea, hot chocolate and pop, there's also a number of light lunch options on the menu including salads, chips, bagels, muffins, chocolate bars and a variety of sandwiches.

"I don't cook, but if I can toast it, we'll make it," laughed Hewitt.

"In the summer I'll also have ice cream and sundaes."

Since the shop is in Hewitt's home, the overhead costs are low which equals great prices for customers.

"The overhead isn't big so

I can keep my prices down," she said. "Everything on the menu is under five dollars."

The store is open Monday and Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Hewitt is opening up for the weekends from 7 to 9 p.m. with the area's teens in mind.

"I'm opening at night for the kids so they can come eat some snacks and have a place to chat with friends," she said.

With plans in the works to turn a room upstairs into a new and secondhand clothing store, Lily's Wee Bits & Bites will truly be a one-stop shop.

"We will offer wedding dressing, prom dresses and even boys' suits," she said.

Hewitt has only been open for less than a month but the longtime Portage du Fort resident is enjoying meeting new customers and urges others to stop in and take a peek.

"There's a lot of people who are curious as to what

I offer," she said. "If you want to find out, I welcome you to come in."

Despite her happiness on her new business, there's only one drawback to running a coffee shop.

"Now I drink too much coffee," laughed Hewitt.



Lilias Hewitt, third from left, serves up a cup of fresh coffee to new customers Joann Brinkworth, left, Kim Elliott, second from left, and Romanus Elliott, right. Hewitt just opened Lily's Wee Bits & Bites coffee shop in Portage du Fort. In addition to coffee, the shop offers light lunch snacks and gift ideas.

## Otter Lake

Elizabeth Hahn 453-7326 Golden Age Club euchre results for Dec. 16. First prize: Marguerite St-Aubin and Vic Bisson. Second prize: Pierrette Graveline and Roger Sincennes. 50/50 winner: Laurette St-Aubin. Door prize: Lionel Racine. Dessert was provided by Josie McCarthy and Marie Pilon. Happy

birthday wishes to Ellard Robinson Dec. 18.

Dart league results for Dec. 18: High score: Pat Bisson and Jean-Paul Lafleur. Second prize: Pierrette Graveline and Bill Lintell. High averages: June and Laurier Francoeur. 50/50 winner: Alvine St-Aubin. Door prize: René Graveline.

On Saturday, Dec. 20 the Golden Age Club hosted their annual

Christmas Dinner. Approximately 72 members enjoyed ham, turkey and all the trimmings.

Great music was provided by DJ, Michel Croteau. A donation of \$350 for the Pontiac Hospital dialysis project was raised by selling tickets for a lovely afghan crocheted and donated by Rosette Fleury. The lucky winner was none other than Nicole St-Aubin.

## Bryson

Anna Stewart 648-2351 Once again it's that time of year. A happy season for some and a sad season for others. But we still should remember it is a season of the birth of Christ, a new beginning.

On Sunday night, the Bryson Lion's Club with the help of the Lionette's served with all the trimmings a delicious meal of turkey and meat pie. The Lion's Club goes all out each year for the seniors. Each Lion has guests, but every year the crowd gets smaller and smaller. Everyone gets a gift from Santa. This year it was banana nut loaves, all made by Lion Sheila Racine. We each got a little gift made by the Brownies and Girl Guides. This is the last year as the Brownies and

Girl Guide club has folded this year. It is sad to see this happen as this was part of our community for years. I hope someday this will start up again, as this was a great learning experience for our girls.

The Bryson Lion's Club still has calendars if anyone is interested. It makes great stuffing stuffers. It is only \$20 and you could win up to \$500. There will be draws throughout the year. If you are interested call Guy or Sheila Racine.

Thanks to Charlie and Jackie Atkinson for the lovely donation of pennies for the Snow Suit Fund. Also a big thank you to Johnny Schwartz and everyone else who has donated. All of your donations are great and we sure need you! It doesn't look like as

many decorations out this year as other years. But the town looks lovely anyways!

Birthday greetings to Weston Stewart of Cartier. Welcome home to Bernice. She spent a month in Florida with her mom.

Birthday greetings going out to Dave Graham of Vancouver who celebrated Dec. 12. Dave is my sister Barbara's husband.

We spent the weekend dog-sitting our son Jamie's dog, Rooks. Jim spent the weekend running around the coffee table after the dog, demanding that the dog drop his sock or his mitt, which ever he put down. We had an exciting time!

Belated birthday wishes going out to Suzie Romain in the west! Hope you had a great day!

## Women's Institute gives



The Bristol Women's Institute made a \$500 donation to the Pontiac Community Hospital Foundation's dialysis fund back in October in the amount of \$500. From left, Greg Hayes of the Pontiac Community Hospital Foundation, Margaret Young, Elsie Gordon, Eileen Miller and Carol Clark.

## Shawville

Lyse Lacourse 647-5932 lysie\_wheezy@hotmail.com

Happy belated birthday wishes to Melba Powell who celebrated her birthday on Dec. 7. We wish you the best Melba!

Some people celebrating their birthdays this week and next week are Carley Mayhew, Bill Potvin, Brad Harris, Holly Belanger, Louis-Philippe Lavallée, Bev Orr, Connie Callaghan, Robert McCord, Scott Brownlee, Gertie Greenshields, Edith Kelly, Donna Blair, Eleanor Shaver, Joyce Hodgins, Glen Danis, Gracie Younge, Amy Taylor, Brent Young, Ann Horner, Gary Tubman, Edna Carruthers, Claire Barr, Krista-Leigh Rivet, John McMunn, Tom Orr, Tynesha Hodgins, Marguerite Carmichael, and Dalton Smith.

Our deepest sympathies to the Hodgins family on the passing of Thomas on Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2008, with his family by his side. Thomas was in his 84th year.

The Christmas Cantata was performed by the Pontiac Ecumenical Choir on Sunday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m. at the Shawville Wesleyan Church.

Happy wedding anniversary wishes to the following couples: Doug

and Bonnie Zimmerling, Donald and Shirley Paul, Leslie and Gertie Greenshields, Earle and Bonnie Potvin, Tom and Marilyn Fahey, and Dawn and Andrew Dickson.

Happy belated 50th birthday greetings to Ronnie Hodgins who celebrated his birthday Dec. 16.

The annual Christmas House visits were held on Wednesday, Dec. 17. The houses visited were: Richard and Carolyne Meisner, Syd and Judy Stephens, Dave and Debbie Moore, and Susan and Bill McCleary. The time and effort spent by the homeowners is well worth it. Visitors were treated to four beautiful homes with different themes. Afterwards, hot cider, coffee and cookies were served at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall by the organizers.

Congratulations to the homeowners and volunteers for a job well done.

Happy 50th birthday greetings to Harry Dale who celebrates Dec. 23.

The Shawville Figure Skating Club hosted its Winterfest 2008 Saturday, Dec. 20 at the Shawville Arena. The skaters were great. The group numbers were whimsical. The senior skaters each did their personal bests.

Sarah Hodgins, the Shawville Figure Skating Club coach choreographed each skating number for both the

senior skaters and group numbers. Parents, grandparents and friends enjoyed the show tremendously.

On Sunday, the Shawville Lions hosted Breakfast with Santa at the Shawville Lions Hall at 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Santa was on hand for those last Christmas requests. Families, friends and children enjoyed their breakfast outing.

Our thoughts and prayers to the Hortie family on the loss of Robert (Bob). Bob was a veteran of the W.W.II R.C.A.F. He was also the general manager at Hilton Mines. He died peacefully at the Pontiac Reception Centre in Shawville, Quebec, on Thursday, Dec. 18, 2008. He was 86 years old.

The open house at Tim Horton's Camp was held on Saturday, Dec. 20. This open house showcased Dr. Croteau's Christmas village. The Christmas village takes several weeks to mount up and it is truly worth the effort.

Each visitor were served by the hostess with the mostest Mrs. Mary Hamilton. Mary treated us to Tim Horton's coffee with delicious Timbits and donuts. She then proceeded to take us for a camp tour.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

## Firefighters graduate



The Chichester-Sheenboro Fire Department congratulated five firefighters on the completion of the Firefighter 1 course, as well as the First Aid and CPR courses recently. They received their certificates and will soon be starting on courses for pump operators and the jaws of life. From left are Shawn Martin, Sheenboro Mayor Roy Perrault, Stewart Adam, Chichester Mayor Donny Gagnon, Chichester-Sheenboro Fire Chief Ian Picard, Pat Therens, and Glynn Fleury. More firefighters will be starting the introductory course early next year.

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 Les notaires Mireille Alary et Isabelle Pelletier et leurs assistantes souhaitent à tous un joyeux Noël et une heureuse année et remercient leurs fidèles clients pour leur confiance.  
 Notaries Mireille Alary and Isabelle Pelletier and their assistants wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and thank their faithful clients for their trust.

May the Christmas season be full of joy and happiness!  
 It's been a pleasure serving you.  
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**AVIS PUBLIC AUX CONTRIBUABLES DE LA MUNICIPALITÉ DE SHAWVILLE**  
 Avis public est par les présentes donné par le soussigné le secrétaire-trésorier de la Municipalité de Shawville que : Les réunions régulières de l'année 2009 du Conseil Municipal seront tenues chaque second mardi du mois à 19h30 aux dates ci-dessous:  
 les 13 et 27 janvier les 14 juillet  
 les 10 et 24 février les 11 et 25 août  
 les 10 et 24 mars les 8 et 22 septembre  
 les 14 et 28 avril les 13 et 27 octobre  
 les 12 et 26 mai les 10 et 24 novembre  
 les 9 et 23 juin les 8 et 15 décembre  
 Donné à Shawville, Québec, ce 1<sup>er</sup> décembre 2008.  
 Me André Cordeau, secrétaire-trésorier  
**PUBLIC NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SHAWVILLE**  
 Public Notice is hereby given by the undersigned Secretary-Treasurer of the Municipality of Shawville that: The 2009 regular meetings of the Municipal Council will be held every second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. under the set forth dates:  
 January 13 and 27 July 14  
 February 10 and 24 August 11 and 25  
 March 10 and 24 September 8 and 22  
 April 14 and 28 October 13 and 27  
 May 12 and 26 November 10 and 24  
 June 9 and 23 December 8 and 15  
 Given this 1st day of December 2008, at Shawville, Quebec.  
 Me André Cordeau, Secretary-Treasurer

Danford Lake

Stephanie Milford 467-1091 Hello everyone! It's been a while since I last wrote. I've been in physio a lot. This time for my shoulder. It is coming along slowly. This one has been the toughest by far. It knocked me for a loop. I'm just thankful that my mom came with me once again. I wasn't able to move my arm for the first six weeks. She and my family were great. When we got home we were just completely exhausted. Mom still took the time and made sure that I was as comfortable as I could be. This surgery was as hard on her as it was on me. I think. Thank you mom and I love you all!

Are you ready for Christmas yet? Mom has been baking cookies and meat-pies. Now that's a smell that you can't beat! Are you done shopping? I finished last week. Then came the fun part, wrapping! My room looks like Santa's sleigh up in it! I gotta put them under the tree. The kids will be counting how many

people will choose to drink and drive this holiday season and we all know that's not the thing to do. So with the combination of drunk drivers and speeders on the highways... you know what the dire consequences can be. I'd like to take a minute and wish Mrs. B. in Luskville a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Hope you have a wonderful time. Friday night I went to see a Christmas concert at the school in Lac Ste-Marie. The kids were so cute. There was one little boy in particular that was so nervous and excited that all he could do during the song they were singing was jump. It was so cute. Then another little boy was swinging his poster around. That's the age where Santa and the magic of Christmas truly lives in the hearts of the kids. Dec. 21 was the first day of winter. That means the days will start to get longer and that spring is only a few months away! Sunday though, it seemed like a year with

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THE BEST OF WINTER Merry Christmas and many thanks. Pontiac Refrigeration and Appliance Service Ltd. (Since 1976) 819-647-2464 Shawville

Ladysmith

Debbie Thrun 647-3927 Deepest sympathy to the family and Friends of Bill Collins of Arnprior who passed away last Tuesday. He used to hunt in this area years ago and was well known and liked. He was a former member of the Bluff Mountain Hunt Club of Cawood. The deer are very scarce. People who are putting our feed report only a few are coming to ear. The population has certainly decreased. We noticed there seem to be more bluejays than ever. They are very aggressive and bully the smaller birds. They certainly eat a lot of birdseed. Ladysmith's grand old lady Hulda "Oma" Erfle

celebrated her 100th birthday on the weekend of Dec. 14. Helping her celebrate were folks from near and far including eight relatives from Germany. A special church service in which Oma graciously participated in was held at St. John's Church. Rev. Ted Heinz presided at the service some of which was conducted in German. Afterwards everyone enjoyed a reception at the T.C.R.A. Centre. We all join in wishing this remarkable lady years of health and happiness. The Lutheran Christmas services this year are Tuesday at Ladysmith and Zion, Schwartz Christmas eve. Both at 7 p.m. All welcome. The Zion Church

Christmas Children's program will be at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 21. Everyone is most welcome. The annual children's Christmas party was held Dec. 7 at T.C.R.A. Ladysmith. The event was complete with gifts, balloons, refreshments and of course Santa Claus. This event is always much enjoyed by everyone. I'm sure the kids and school children are getting very excited and anxious about the upcoming holidays and waiting patiently for Santa. A very Merry Christmas to all you children and have a safe and happy holiday. Celebrating birthdays this month are Hiram Hodgins Dec. 23 and Larry Palmer of Charteris Dec. 28. Last week I got a big surprise when I returned

home. There was a lovely message on my phone from my grand one teacher, Dorothy Elliott. She is a sister to Donna Elliott and is married to a minister. I was quite disappointed I didn't get to talk to her. But she left me a heart warming message that really touched me deeply. Special birthday congratulations to my niece Crystal Thrun on Dec. 30 from your aunt Debbie. Our good friend, Harold Mahlitz of Kitchner sends out Christmas greetings and all the best for the New Year to all his friends in the Ladysmith area. Belated birthday wishes to Jean Martineau who celebrated Dec. 21. Get well wishes to Donna Elliott who had the misfortune of falling on the ice. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Happy birthday to

Shawn Sparling Dec. 24. Recently we enjoyed a lovely visit with Patsy and Joe Belsher. Joe is starting to feel much better. Keep up the good work Joe. Special birthday greetings to a friend and my hairdresser who celebrates Dec. 24. Well, Christmas has finally arrived, this evening is Christmas eve and tomorrow is our special day. For the past week everyone has been at a fast pace getting the last minute chores done. For the special day here's a little something I would like to share with my readers. Remembering you at this time of year and wishing you a magical Christmas. May the miracle of Christmas touch us all with joy, love and peace. Wishing you all every happiness at Christmas and the holi-

day season. A very merry Christmas goes out to everyone as you celebrate with family and friends. There will be more traffic during the holidays so please drive with caution. Holiday greetings to the Bluff Mountain Hunt Camp gang and also the hunters Paradise Gang from "the great white hunter." Roberta Sparling is starting the new year with a birthday on Jan. 1. Well, here's something to end my notes for this year 2008. It's hard to believe we will soon be getting into a brand new year. So start thinking now of a special new year's resolution. Here's wishing you a Merry Christmas and the best of health and happiness in the new year. I hope to talk to you all and see you in the new year. God bless you.

AUBERGE MONT BLANC 37 Calumet Rd., Portage du Fort 819-647-5303 Prenez note que nous serons fermé du lundi 22 décembre au mardi 13 janvier 2009 inclusivement. Ouvert mercredi 14 jan. 2009. Take notice that we will be closed from Monday, December 22, 2008 until Tuesday, January 13, 2009 inclusively. Open Wed., Jan. 14, 2009. Joyeux Noël et Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Rose Marie, Edgar et employées and staff

Quyion

Jill McBane 458-2366 Sympathy is expressed to the family of Tom Hodgins of Shawville who passed away last week. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. Forty out of 48 Desabrais' gathered at the home of Barb Desabrais on Saturday, Dec. 20. Lots of good food and laughs and believe it or not Freddie had the odd joke gift to give. If you haven't seen Mae McCann's house, it's worth the drive, her lights are beautiful and Santa and his reindeer are on her front lawn in an old-fashioned sleigh. Also celebrating

Christmas on Saturday was the McBane Gang, they gathered at Debbie (McBane) and Byron Martineau's in Burnstown with the whole gang present. Everyone got a kick out of Rebecca's laugh. Get well wishes to Catherine Armitage who broke her ankle. We hope she gets better before her big trip to Cuba in February. The Shawville Figure Skating Club held their ice revue on Saturday and I had the privilege of watching my granddaughter Mackenzie Barr skate. In closing I would like to wish all my readers a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year and

I would like to leave you with this Christmas prayer. Loving Father. Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clean hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be Thy children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus sake. Amen.

The spirit of giving



The Pontiac Orange Lodge recently donated \$2,000 to the Pontiac Community Hospital Foundation's dialysis fundraiser. Of the money, \$1,370 was raised at a variety show held at Pontiac High School on October 10. The remainder of the money came from the lodge's coffers. From left are Greg Hayes of the Pontiac Community Hospital Foundation and Orange Lodge Representatives Donald Wilson, Allison Corrigan and Gerald Mielke.



BECAUSE THE GOOD WILL OF THOSE WE SERVE IS THE FOUNDATION OF OUR SUCCESS, IT'S A REAL PLEASURE AT THIS HOLIDAY TIME TO SAY "THANK YOU" AS WE WISH YOU A FULL YEAR OF HAPPINESS AND SUCCESS. Tru-Line COLLISION CENTRE CENTRE DE COLLISION Phone 819-647-2937 26 Victoria Ave. SHAWVILLE PROP. Robert C. Trudeau

Caldwell

Hermonie Sharpe 647-3459 On the weekend of Dec. 13 guests with us were Don and Joanne Sharpe of Peterborough, as they plan to have Christmas with their children, Scott and wife Sheri and Stephanie and husband Jason and their children. We had a Christmas dinner for them and Jim and Connie Hunter from Golden Lake also joined us and Neil from Shawville. This past Tuesday night the Quyion Golden Age Club held their Christmas dinner with Billy T catering. You did it again Billy it was a wonderful meal. It was a wonderful evening with a great many door prizes given out to lucky winners.

We played 10 games of four-hand euchre and then five games of bingo. Congratulations Emile, as you act as president of the club and make everyone feel so welcome. This is sure an old-fashioned winter with lots of snow. I really think it is much healthier weather. Birthday congratulations to Doris Hannah of Shawville who celebrated her 85th this past Saturday. A lovely dinner was held for her at the curling rink by John and Gloria Green. Well once again I hope you all have a safe and happy Christmas and may the new year bring us good health and happiness. You know when all the fuss of opening gifts, attending Christmas suppers, dancing and

partying the old year out, what a let down unless we look for something to do. If you're able to drive, go visit the sick and shut-ins. And before you know it January will be gone. The Quyion Golden Age Club will re-open Jan. 5. Birthday congratulations to Donald McCredie at Pontiac Reception Centre who celebrates Jan. 23. Belated birthday greetings to my grandson Craig Wilson who celebrated Dec. 19 and Doris Manary Dec. 20. Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Tom Hodgins of Shawville who recently passed away. They say the ice at Norway Bay is five inches thick. Over the weekend six snowmobiles crossed from Ontario on the ice to the Quebec side. To my way of thinking, the machines are not light

and you could hit a spot where the ice is thinner. This has happened before and you might not live to tell about it. Can you remember when one dollar was equal to 25 or 50 of them today. You could buy a lovely doll for a child for less than a dollar. I worked at housework for \$10 a month and paid \$3 for my room. Were we happy? Of course we were because most of us were in the same boat. On the way to school, when I was younger, mother would give me one cent for candy and I would drop into Bill Gibson's store which is now McCauley's and get a large enough bag to treat my friends. I had a call from my son, Peter, this past Saturday from Barriere, B.C. His weather report was -30 degrees below. Shawn Wilson, Peter's

nephew who is in Edmonton is going to Peter's for Christmas. What a treat we had this past Saturday night on Regional Contact. It was something really worth listening to as they told about their lives when they were growing up, how music was always a part of their family as well as their church life. It was the best carols I have heard yet. Just what we needed to bring out the Christmas spirit. There were Leona, Christine and Sally McKennie and Eleanor Foran. Congratulations girls. Our deepest sympathy to the family and friend of Bob Hortie who passed away recently. We were sorry to hear of the death of Brian Ardley of Almonte who passed away in Florida. He was the nephew of Mel and

Millie Bowes of Norway Bay. Mel and Millie flew to Ottawa for the service. This past Saturday a mother deer and her twins were crossing the road in the front of the Pine Lodge Golf Course when a vehicle hit and killed the mother leaving the twins orphans. The last I heard the twins were still coming back to the mother who had staggered onto a nearby lawn and died. Even the animals have their sadness. The Christmas concerts are a big attraction at this time of year. It is so nice to see the little ones performing. Our neighbours Sean and Jennifer Yach were in the one at the Lutheran Church at Ladysmith and the children of Jennifer's sister Stephanie and children were in the United Church Christmas concert.

Christmas is Coming NORTHPOLE R.R. 12-25

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Waltham

Helen Perry 689-2652 jacobg42@hotmail.com Get well wishes are extended to Greta Masseur, who had the misfortune of falling and breaking her collar bone.

We hope that you are on the mend soon! Gail and Roger Perry enjoyed supper with us on Sunday night. Warm birthday wishes are extended to Ita Perry and David Perry, who are celebrating their birth-

days today. All the best of to you both. I hope Santa is extra good to you! It is official, we have now passed Dec. 21, the shortest day of the year. Each new day will grow a little longer and more sunlight will grace our daily lives. And yes, it certainly looks like a repeat of last winter, lots of snow

and chilly temperatures. This should be great for our outdoor winter sports. Don't forget to dress for the conditions and enjoy the holidays. I cannot believe that Christmas is finally here, and another year has already gone by. Where does the time go? Father Time does not wait for

anyone. I would like to ask for prayers for our sweet Isabella, (Rhonda and Mark's little girl), who is on a 12 week chemotherapy treatment for her kidneys. It will be a low key Christmas for our family, as Isabella's immune system is low and she cannot have a lot of contact with other peo-

ple, in case she picks up a virus or bacteria. I would like to take this opportunity, from our house to your house to wish you all a very blessed Christmas filled with love, peace and joy. May you have a wonderful Christmas with all your loved ones, family and friends.

THE EQUITY Voice of the Pontiac since 1883

December '08							January '09						
s	m	t	w	t	f	s	s	m	t	w	t	f	s
1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

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### COMING EVENTS

**Parish of Northern Pontiac Christmas Schedule - Sun., Dec. 21, 1:30 p.m.** St. James, Wright, Christmas Eve, Wed., Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m. St. George's, Thorne Centre, 8 p.m. St. James, Otter Lake, 10:30 p.m. Holy Trinity, Danford Lake, Everyone welcome. 2xd24

**Wed., Dec. 24 - 7 p.m.** Wesleyan Standard Church Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 7 p.m., 586 Main St., Shawville, Que. Everyone welcome. 2bd24

**Sat., Dec. 27 - Great Stocking Stuffer for the Music Lover in your home.** The best Christmas party in The Ottawa Valley is at The Renfrew Wing. Featuring Canadian Champion Fiddler, Louis Schryer, Gail Gavan, The Mick Armitage Band, Renfrew's own Half Cutt and from Bristol Adrienne Taylor. Tickets \$20. 819-647-5915, 819-458-2771 (Bus Available), 613-226-9178. Tickets at door. 4bd24

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Hot tub (Spa) Covers.** Best Price, Best Quality. All Shapes & Colours Available. Call 1-866-652-6837. www.thecoverguy.ca. qd24

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**Used Pacific Classic wood stove,** blue with gold trim \$300. Call Greg 819-647-1937. xtc.

### FARM PRODUCE

**Home grown potatoes** \$15 for 50 lbs. Call 12 p.m. til 4 p.m. 819-455-2376. 2xd24

**Wildlife feed for sale - Deer Survival Mix, Wild Turkey Survival Mix, Cracked & Whole corn.** Call Barclay Dick & Son Farm Supply near Douglas, 613-649-2620 or 649-2440. 4xd24

### NOTICE

**Keep things moving smoothly** with an economical, natural treatment for your septic tanks and chemical toilets that you need to use only every (3) three months. BIOWAY available at Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre, Shawville. 647-2204. xtc

**Maritime Drilling Schools** entry-level training for land and offshore oilrigs. Excellent wages, benefits and opportunities to travel the world. Feb 2-Feb 21/09 March 2-March 21/09. Contact 1-866-807-3960, www.mdlimited.ca. qd24

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### MEMORIAM

**McNeill - In loving memory** of Mrs. John A McNeill (née Beverley Ann Campbell) July 29, 1935 to Dec. 12, 1985. Our family circle has been broken. A link gone from our chain. No one knows the silent heartaches. Only those who have come through it can tell. There's not a week dear Beverley I do not think of the way we used to communicate with each other. Forever lovingly remembered, Your brother Ronald W. Campbell

**Stewart - In loving memory** of a very special father-in-law and Grandpa Beverley. We miss you Always loved, remembered and close to our hearts. Love Tam, Kayla and Travis

### MEMORIAM

**Twolan, Lionel - In loving memory** of a dear husband, father, grandpa who passed away Dec. 24, 2003. We thought we felt your touch today. In the breeze that rustled by And then we heard an Angel say "The Spirit never dies" We thought that we would miss you so And never find our way And then we heard an Angel say "They're with you every day." Sadly missed, Norma, Bonnie, Colleen, David, Rod and families

**Morrison, Eldon - In loving memory** of a dear Husband, Dad, and Grandpa, Eldon, who passed away Dec. 25, 2004. Every day in some small way, Memories of you come our way, Though absent you are ever near Still missed, loved and always dear. Lovingly remembered by Isabella and Family

### MEMORIAM

**(Young) Smith - Marilyn I miss you!** Chance made us friends Our hearts made us "sisters" We didn't see each other every day ... but ... I knew you were never far away. A phone call brought you running with salmon sandwiches in your hand. The best salmon sandwiches in all the land! I will never forget you! You will remain forever in my heart and on my mind. Till we meet again. Faye

### MEMORIAM

**Passport Photos Done Here!** Pontiac Printshop Home of THE EQUITY 133 Centre St., Shawville 819-647-2204

**RIVER CLUB CHAPEAU** presents **SIDETRACK** Sat., Dec. 27 3 p.m. - 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. Hwy 148, Chapeau

Wed., Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Bash, Campbell's Bay R.A. Centre 9 to 2. Deejay with a light lunch served. 2bd24

### MISCELLANEOUS

**2 snow tires (used 1 winter)** P245/70/R16, Bridgestone (Winter Dueler) asking \$150 for both. Call 819-648-2555. bd24

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**Pies, pies, pies, melt in your mouth crust.** Meat pies, chicken pot, apple, raisin, strawberry-rhubarb, bumbleberry, butterscotch, lemon. Assorted mouth-watering cookies; Aunt Mary's, Jam-jams, thumbprint, shortbread, gingerbread, etc. Order now and stock up for Christmas while supplies last. Di's Pies. Call 819-648-5296. Leave a clear message. xtcj28

### BEDS, SOFA BEDS, BEDROOM SUITES, DINING ROOM SUITES, SOFAS, RECLINERS, BAR STOOLS, HEADBOARDS, COMFORTERS

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### FARM PRODUCE

**Bird feed for sale - Black oil sunflowers and mixes!** Locally grown. Great for holiday gifts! Call Barclay Dick & Son Farm Supply near Douglas, 613-649-2620 or 649-2440. 4xd24

**Feed production is back in full swing!** High-Protein, Beef Beef Booster mixes and more! All natural, locally grown. Available in bulk, 1/2tote or 25 kg bags. Call Barclay & Dick Son Farm Supply near Douglas, 613-649-2620 or 649-2440. xd24

**Straw for sale - Large square bales,** stored indoors. Call Barclay Dick & Son Farm Supply near Douglas, 613-649-2620 or 649-2440. 4xd24

### WANTED TO BUY

**Bring us your gold/scrap gold.** We have raised our buying price on gold. So come in and take advantage of the soaring gold price. Howard's Pawn Shop 819-684-1334. otc

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### FOR RENT

**Bryson - 3 bedroom house** 819-648-2222. otc

**Campbell's Bay - 2 one bedroom** apartments available now \$475 per month, heat included. References required, no pets 819-647-5435. 2xj7

**Otter Lake - 3 bedroom house** \$450 per month, pay your own utilities, available January 1st, 819-453-7033. 2b7

**Shawville - 1 and 2 bedroom** apartment for rent 647-3256. otc.

### REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

**Large commercial and residential** village lots, Otter Lake, Quebec. Lake access near by. Controlled architecture 819-453-7245. 4xj7

**Timeshare foreclosures - Save 60-80% off retail!** Best resorts & seasons! Throughout Canada, US, Caribbean and more! Call for free catalogue today! 1-800-731-8046 - www.holidaygroup.com/sc. qd24

### SERVICES

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**We do install oil tanks,** do furnace repairs, sales and service, combination furnaces, wood, oil, electric or hot water. Joe Konrad 819-647-2391. otc

**Christmas is just around the corner.** Why not get a loved one or someone special in your life a gift certificate for a massage, pedicure, manicure, body wrap or body exfoliation. For more information call Marie-Renée Serré at 819-648-2057 or e-mail mrserré@persona.ca. Receipts and gift certificates available upon request. 5xd24

**Need something moved?** Light Floating service, 10 ton trailer, 30 foot deck length, reasonable rates. 819-647-3636 or leave message 4bd24

**Snow shoveling from roof to ground** ask for John 819-647-5167. xtc.

**Snow shoveling.** Pierre 647-5128. 2xd24

### PERSONALS

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### NOTICE

**Promotional items** are available for your business such as caps, pens, cups, etc., etc. It's a great way to advertise your business. For more information call Katherine at the Pontiac Printshop, 133, Centre St., Shawville, Quebec, J0X 1G0, 819-647-2204. xtc

### Vinton

**Diane Boisvert 648-5296** Merry Christmas and happy New Year to everyone. Santa will be here tonight. It is a busy time of year but don't forget the elderly and people stuck in hospitals. Give them a call, drop in to visit or take them home with you for a few hours. You won't believe how you can brighten up a person's day and how good it will make you feel. Turk is looking to find his son, Chummer, a job for the winter. So anyone needing their grass cut between Jan. 1 and March 31 Chummer is available. He is sharpening the mower blades as you read this. So give him a call at 648-2091. Make his daddy proud. Happy birthday to Willard Kluge and Eddy Chenier who celebrate Christmas Day and to Lizanne Kluge, Megan Hearty and Lori Smith all on Dec. 30. The snow enthusiasts must be happy to have all the white stuff so early. At least we know we will have a white Christmas. The last few snowfalls

### DEATH

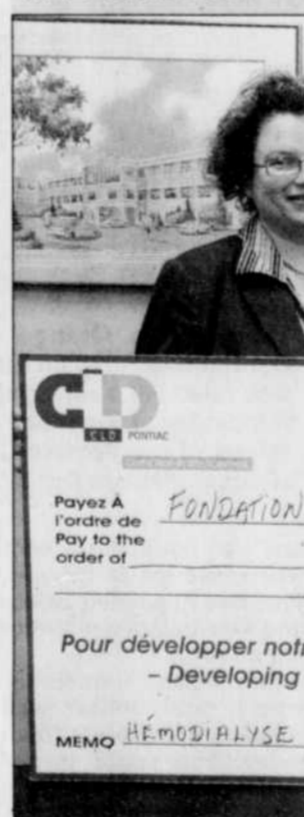
**McCluskey, Lilian Welden - Peacefully** at Pontiac Long Term on Dec. 18, 2008. Burial will be in Lost River, Quebec. We wish to thank all of Lilian's relatives and friends for their kindness and support. We also wish to thank all the doctors and staff at the hospital and Long Term for their excellent care and support. Richard and Shirley Marion

**Kluge - Sincere thanks** The family of the late Joan Kluge (Sparling) who passed away peacefully on December 6th at the PCH would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all who supported us in our time of sorrow. Thank you to family and friends for your prayers, donations, phone calls and your presence. Special thanks to Dr. Courchesne and all staff of the Palliative and General Care of the Pontiac Hospital. Special thanks to the friends and neighbours in and around Isabella Ave., Shawville for their donation to the PCH Foundation. Everyone's support will always be remembered.

**Lee-Hodgins - The family** of the late Kathleen Lee-Hodgins wishes to express our most heartfelt thanks to our extended families, friends and neighbours. So much kindness and generosity of spirit. To Paula Mullin for a memorial service that touched each of us deeply, thank you. Many thanks to George Campbell and the U.C.W. Our utmost appreciation is sent to the staff of Pontiac Long Term Centre. Thanks to each of you for your warmth, kindness and good care given to our mom. To Dr. Ruth Vander Stelt for your efficient care and concerns. To one of mom's earthly angels, Connie Crick, a huge thank you. Last but not least, I know Mom would have wanted her appreciation extended to Dr. Keith MacLellan. The Family

**Dear Heart of Jesus** in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask for this favour, special one "name the favour". Take it dear Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it, then in your merciful eyes it will become your favour, not mine. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 days and promise publication and your favour will be granted. Never known to fail.

### CLD donates



were playing some good old rock and roll. Nobody was moving so I grabbed Randy and we started the party going. Someone always has to be first. We were only there an hour but we got the kids all up and dancing. Happy 49th Randy.

Do you have a roadside assistance plan? I do and I've used it from time to time. I think women usually carry the plan because it's like a security blanket. Men, however, think why do I need it? I can fix anything. Well I know a certain man this past weekend that could have used roadside assistance. He locked his keys in the truck and I don't know if he locked his spare set in the truck too, or couldn't find them. But I do know that the truck is still sitting there after two days. I guess it's just like how men won't ask for directions but are willing to burn \$50 of gas looking for their destinations. Now boys, before you start calling and telling me what you think, you better have a good answer for me.

A big thank you to our snow plow operators who work tirelessly to keep our road and laneways

open. Also to Helen Desjardins who always get the mail through even on the worst days. I know most of us take it for granted and expect the roads to be clear and the mail to be in. I'm sure it is nerve racking to even be on the roads on those bad days. We just want you to know we appreciate your hard work and dedication.

Kiki has on her Christmas collar and wants to wish you all the best over the holidays. I would like to thank all my patrons who purchased pies and cookies. I will have supplies over the holidays because I stocked to make sure everyone got their orders and to have enough for last minute shoppers. Order now for New Year's. Call 648-5296.

Some die hard snowmobilers went out Saturday with minus 25 degree Celsius weather. Suddy got frost bitten on his face just coming from Fort Coulonge to Campbell's Bay. I hope you're okay Suddy because you didn't look very good Saturday night.

I would like to thank Trevor Beauregard for being a good neighbour.

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### Campbell's Bay

**Iris Smith 613-989-3233** iris@magma.ca I hope everyone is ready for Christmas with all the baking and goodies stored away for this family time. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas despite all the snow storms and that travelling will be easier Christmas Day.

The Golden Age Club held its euchre on Tuesday at the clubroom with a good crowd in attendance. Ladies high was won by Patricia Lamothe, second was a tie between Vera Mayor and Dorcas Sparling. Men's high was won by Roger Lacroix and second was won by Richard Marion. The door prize was won by Phyllis Smith and the 50-50 was won by Vera Mayor. The winning of the free ticket for

Campbell's Bay who passed away recently.

I attended a Christmas Concert this week at Shanly Public School. It was kindergarten to Grade 3 and they did a great job. The program was great and the children were stary eyed. My daughter JoAnne is principal at this school which will be closing in June.

Thursday I went to the seniors' turkey dinner in South Mountain. Santa greeted us at the door. There were draws for prizes as well. Marlene Fawcett a well known singer in this area sang Christmas songs for entertainment.

Happy birthday to Jessica Crawford, Betty Church, Mary Ann Belanger Daniel Sloan, Daniel Provost, Terry Racine, Renault Godin, Aline Belland, Virginia Belland, Isabelle Lacroix, Lise Dagenais, Carol Kavanagh, Emile Morin

Bonnie Beauregard, Shauna Laporte, Claudette Sloan, Linda Frost, Thomas Ranger, Donald Graveline Sr., Denise Gervais, Tommy Payette, Luc Dubeau, Lorna Smith, Angela Lance, Melissa Hewitson, Krystyna Levers, Brad Harris, Bob Laporte, Hilda Brown and Lilane Lacroix.

I sometimes think people with birthdays close to Christmas get a little cheated because people are busy with Christmas.

Anniversary wishes to Joey and Alison Hearty and Lionel and Pearl Belland. These couples remember their special day and join with others and family to make this a memorable occasion.

Congratulations to Mike and Sandra Hodgins on the birth of their son, Noah on Dec. 16. Mike is my nephew and son of the late Jean Murphy and my brother Carman.

Wilbur McLean, The Equity

**The Pontiac Local Development Centre (CLD) donated \$1,000 to the Pontiac Community Hospital Foundation's dialysis fund recently.** The money was raised from bar sales at the MRC/CLD anniversary gala, which was held last fall. The gala celebrated the 10th anniversary of the CLD and the 25th anniversary of the MRC. Pictured at left: The CLD's director-general, Isabelle de Bruyn presented the large cheque to Greg Hayes of the foundation.

L'Institut forestier du Canada établit la liste des défis clés pour la foresterie en 2009

MATTAWA • L'Institut forestier du Canada-The Canadian Institute of Forestry (IFC-CIF) a présenté aujourd'hui quatre thèmes clés de la foresterie qui continueront de nécessiter une attention spéciale...

neux à la foresterie est le fondement des économies locales. L'IFC-CIF soutient les efforts du gouvernement et de l'industrie visant à améliorer le caractère concurrentiel, la durabilité du secteur forestier du Canada...

Pineau, directeur général de l'IFC-CIF. Le travail de l'IFC-CIF vise à informer positivement et à influencer les décideurs clés du gouvernement et de l'industrie. Nous voulons participer à affecter la mise en oeuvre de solutions qui profitent à tout le monde.

voie de disparition à l'intérieur de paysages forestiers plus larges. L'IFC-CIF a présenté plus de 25 ateliers sur les espèces en péril à travers l'Ontario, communiquant le message à des milliers de personnes. À l'heure actuelle, l'IFC-CIF est en train de concevoir, d'établir et de mettre en oeuvre un programme national de sensibilisation et de rayonnement axé sur ce défi important.

forestières et de zones agricoles est utilisée pour la production de la bioénergie. Il faut soigneusement envisager les répercussions écologiques et sociales de la conversion de tout genre de forêt ou de terre agricole en production énergétique, en remplacement des produits ligneux traditionnels ou des aliments. Les membres de l'IFC-CIF ont aidé à organiser un important congrès sur la bioénergie à l'Université de Toronto. Pour donner suite au congrès, l'Institut publiera des études approuvées par des collègues à ce sujet dans les éditions à venir de sa revue scientifique, The Forestry Chronicle.

Nous sommes très fiers de nos membres et de ce qu'ils font pour le compte de l'Institut partout au pays, explique madame Anne LeBrun Ruff, vice-présidente de l'IFC-CIF. Nos membres encouragent les connaissances au sujet de la foresterie et son rayonnement de la foresterie dans le grand public. Nous démontrons le rôle impor-

tant des professionnels et praticiens forestiers pour l'amélioration de la condition naturelle et humaine au Canada et partout au monde. L'Institut forestier du Canada est l'une des organisations de conservation de la forêt les plus anciennes et respectées du Canada.

Les membres de l'industrie travaillent au gouvernement, dans l'industrie et le monde de l'éducation. Ses membres sont des forestiers, des techniciens, des biologistes, des écologistes, des éducateurs, des économistes, des scientifiques et l'Institut englobe aussi de nombreuses autres personnes qui sont passionnées pour la foresterie et qui sont intéressées par nos forêts et les écosystèmes complexes qu'elles soutiennent.

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Pour les membres de notre Institut, il est important pour nous de garder les défis et les solutions de la foresterie dans la mire du public et des médias populaires, explique monsieur Peter Marshall, Ph. D., président de l'IFC-CIF. Nous ne parlons pas seulement des sujets qui sont propres à la forêt, parce que tout ce qui se passe en foresterie est étroitement lié aux questions sociales, économiques et environnementales plus larges auxquelles font face le Canada et le monde entier.

Plusieurs activités de front peuvent être entreprises pour surmonter les défis du secteur forestier, explique monsieur John

Marianhill est une organisation à but non lucratif basée sur la foi, située dans la belle vallée d'Ottawa. Nous offrons des soins spécialisés pour 200 long-term et des soins continus pour les résidents. Actuellement, nous acceptons des applications pour les postes suivants:

Registered Nurse, Registered Practical Nurse, Personal Support Worker, Dietary Aide, Student Dietary Aide. If you are interested in applying for any of the aforementioned positions or would like more information on our organization and the services we offer, please contact Human Resources at:



Marianhill is a faith-based, charitable long-term care facility located in the beautiful Ottawa Valley. We provide specialized care for 200 long-term and complex continuing care residents. Currently, we are accepting applications for the following positions:

Au cours de la dernière année, l'IFC-CIF s'est porté à la défense de la gestion durable scientifique de la forêt qui produit un effet positif net sur le piégeage du carbone et qui est un facteur d'atténuation pour la lutte contre les changements climatiques et le réchauffement de la planète.

Bien que les forêts naturelles protégées soient importantes, les écosystèmes forestiers bien gérés utilisés pour produire les produits ligneux jouent aussi un rôle clé pour entreposer le carbone et atténuer les effets des changements climatiques.

L'IFC-CIF a récemment publié une étude importante à ce sujet, intitulée Fact and Fantasy about Forest Carbon (Les faits et les fantasmes au sujet du carbone forestier) dans sa revue professionnelle The Forestry Chronicle, et a aussi présenté à ce sujet, une conférence électronique nationale qui a attiré un important nombre de participants.

Le repli actuel de l'économie mondiale n'est pas un nouveau scénario dans le secteur de la foresterie, où les défis économiques sont prévalents depuis de nombreuses années. La situation économique a aussi causé beaucoup de difficultés pour plusieurs collectivités et familles pour lesquelles l'emploi dans les activités con-



Le Conseil d'administration, la direction générale et l'équipe de gestion désirent profiter de cette occasion du temps des Fêtes pour remercier le personnel et les médecins pour leur support, professionnalisme et intérêt dans la prestation de services auprès de la clientèle. Un remerciement particulier aux bénévoles, partenaires du réseau et organismes communautaires pour leur implication et dévouement. Nous vous souhaitons de Joyeuses Fêtes et une Nouvelle Année sous le signe de la santé, du bonheur et de la prospérité!

Le Centre de santé et de services sociaux du Pontiac. Le Centre de santé et de services sociaux du Pontiac est situé dans la pittoresque vallée de l'Outaouais dans la région du Pontiac. Une région de lacs et de rivières offrant beaucoup de possibilités! Des opportunités de formation sont disponibles pour encourager le développement professionnel. Nous sommes un établissement à statut bilingue. Présentement, l'employeur offre un programme de formation pour apprendre l'anglais.

Madame L'Écuyer assermentée à l'Assemblée nationale

CAMPBELL'S BAY • Madame L'Écuyer, a été nommée officiellement députée de Pontiac lors de la cérémonie d'assermentation des députés libéraux dans la salle du Conseil législatif de l'Assemblée nationale en présence du premier ministre du Québec, M. Jean Charest, le 16 décembre dernier. Je suis honorée d'avoir été choisie par les électeurs du comté de Pontiac pour les représenter à l'Assemblée nationale, a indiqué la députée de Pontiac. Je travaillerai pour tous mes concitoyens pour améliorer leur bien-être, a ajouté madame L'Écuyer. Rappelons que le Parti libéral a fait élire 66 députés le 8 décembre dernier, soit 44 hommes et 22 femmes. Le gouvernement de Jean Charest s'est ainsi vu, pour un 3e mandat consécutif, accorder la confiance des citoyens du Québec. Je suis très heureux de compter sur la présence de madame L'Écuyer pour représenter les électeurs du comté de Pontiac à l'Assemblée nationale. Je suis convaincu que madame L'Écuyer pourra mettre son expérience au service de la population du comté de Pontiac, a conclu le premier ministre du Québec, M. Jean Charest.



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Cassandra Presseau poses on the ice during her skating performance to "Jazz and Jive" Saturday during the Winterfest skating concert at the Shawville arena. The annual event raises money for rink time, as well as gives skaters a chance to perform in front of a live audience.



Chloe Desjardins has her hands full of flowers from family and friends who came out to see her skate at the annual Winterfest Saturday in Shawville. The skating concert featured skaters of all ages, who entertained the crowd with their fun costumes and great skills on the ice.

# Skaters dazzle on ice at Winterfest

LEAH IVERSON

Equity Reporter  
SHAWVILLE • From the adorable wee little ones skating in their pajamas to the young adults impressing spectators with spins and catchy songs, one thing is for sure — the skaters entertained and dazzled the crowd at this year's Winterfest.

The Shawville Figure Skating club's annual skating concert was a hit, bringing out talented skaters and large groups of family and friends into the Shawville Arena Saturday.

The show featured skaters from three years of age to 24 years old with various skill levels, all hitting the ice with big smiles and sparkling ensembles.

This year's concert included group performances such as the Level 1 and 2 group skating to a cute rendition to "The Nutcracker Christmas Tree" or the Level 4 kids skating to the "Nutcracker Sugar Plum Fairies".

In addition, there were many solos on the ice, including Emily Simms' engaging performance to the "Zorro" theme song and Vikki Twolan's captivating skate to "Tango el Roxanne", just to name a few.

First-time performers Dana Nugent and Paige Young, both nine, didn't show a shred of nervousness. Instead, the two were eager to get on the ice and show what they've learned.

"I'm really excited about the show," said Nugent, to which Young added, "This is our first year and we've learned how to do spirals and spins. It's been so fun."

While spectators cheered and even offered roses to some of the skaters, the club's president was equally impressed with the skaters.

"This was the first time I

saw their performances and I was really proud of them," said organizer Lyse Lacourse.

While traditionally held in the evening sometime after Christmas, this year the club held the show in the morning to accommodate the younger participants.

"There's lots of little kids and it's hard for them to stay awake to perform at night," said Lacourse, adding, "The parents really loved having it in the morning and we had a great turnout."

Lacourse said the concert is a great way to end the year and raise money for ice time, as well as prepare skaters for future competitions.

"It's an end of the year show and a prelude for competitions which are held in Shawville on Feb. 28 and Mar. 1," she said. "It gives

skaters the chance to experience the crowd's enthusiasm and to build confidence."

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The Management and Staff

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<b>SHAWVILLE</b> Maison de prestige victorienne incroyable.	<b>LA PECHE</b> Magnifique terrain de 30000 pi. carrés, 10000 pi. carrés de terrain plat, 1997/1998/1999/2000/2001/2002/2003/2004/2005/2006/2007/2008/2009/2010/2011/2012/2013/2014/2015/2016/2017/2018/2019/2020/2021/2022/2023/2024/2025/2026/2027/2028/2029/2030/2031/2032/2033/2034/2035/2036/2037/2038/2039/2040/2041/2042/2043/2044/2045/2046/2047/2048/2049/2050/2051/2052/2053/2054/2055/2056/2057/2058/2059/2060/2061/2062/2063/2064/2065/2066/2067/2068/2069/2070/2071/2072/2073/2074/2075/2076/2077/2078/2079/2080/2081/2082/2083/2084/2085/2086/2087/2088/2089/2090/2091/2092/2093/2094/2095/2096/2097/2098/2099/2100/2101/2102/2103/2104/2105/2106/2107/2108/2109/2110/2111/2112/2113/2114/2115/2116/2117/2118/2119/2120/2121/2122/2123/2124/2125/2126/2127/2128/2129/2130/2131/2132/2133/2134/2135/2136/2137/2138/2139/2140/2141/2142/2143/2144/2145/2146/2147/2148/2149/2150/2151/2152/2153/2154/2155/2156/2157/2158/2159/2160/2161/2162/2163/2164/2165/2166/2167/2168/2169/2170/2171/2172/2173/2174/2175/2176/2177/2178/2179/2180/2181/2182/2183/2184/2185/2186/2187/2188/2189/2190/2191/2192/2193/2194/2195/2196/2197/2198/2199/2200/2201/2202/2203/2204/2205/2206/2207/2208/2209/2210/2211/2212/2213/2214/2215/2216/2217/2218/2219/2220/2221/2222/2223/2224/2225/2226/2227/2228/2229/2230/2231/2232/2233/2234/2235/2236/2237/2238/2239/2240/2241/2242/2243/2244/2245/2246/2247/2248/2249/2250/2251/2252/2253/2254/2255/2256/2257/2258/2259/2260/2261/2262/2263/2264/2265/2266/2267/2268/2269/2270/2271/2272/2273/2274/2275/2276/2277/2278/2279/2280/2281/2282/2283/2284/2285/2286/2287/2288/2289/2290/2291/2292/2293/2294/2295/2296/2297/2298/2299/2300/2301/2302/2303/2304/2305/2306/2307/2308/2309/2310/2311/2312/2313/2314/2315/2316/2317/2318/2319/2320/2321/2322/2323/2324/2325/2326/2327/2328/2329/2330/2331/2332/2333/2334/2335/2336/2337/2338/2339/2340/2341/2342/2343/2344/2345/2346/2347/2348/2349/2350/2351/2352/2353/2354/2355/2356/2357/2358/2359/2360/2361/2362/2363/2364/2365/2366/2367/2368/2369/2370/2371/2372/2373/2374/2375/2376/2377/2378/2379/2380/2381/2382/2383/2384/2385/2386/2387/2388/2389/2390/2391/2392/2393/2394/2395/2396/2397/2398/2399/2400/2401/2402/2403/2404/2405/2406/2407/2408/2409/2410/2411/2412/2413/2414/2415/2416/2417/2418/2419/2420/2421/2422/2423/2424/2425/2426/2427/2428/2429/2430/2431/2432/2433/2434/2435/2436/2437/2438/2439/2440/2441/2442/2443/2444/2445/2446/2447/2448/2449/2450/2451/2452/2453/2454/2455/2456/2457/2458/2459/2460/2461/2462/2463/2464/2465/2466/2467/2468/2469/2470/2471/2472/2473/2474/2475/2476/2477/2478/2479/2480/2481/2482/2483/2484/2485/2486/2487/2488/2489/2490/2491/2492/2493/2494/2495/2496/2497/2498/2499/2500/2501/2502/2503/2504/2505/2506/2507/2508/2509/2510/2511/2512/2513/2514/2515/2516/2517/2518/2519/2520/2521/2522/2523/2524/2525/2526/2527/2528/2529/2530/2531/2532/2533/2534/2535/2536/2537/2538/2539/2540/2541/2542/2543/2544/2545/2546/2547/2548/2549/2550/2551/2552/2553/2554/2555/2556/2557/2558/2559/2560/2561/2562/2563/2564/2565/2566/2567/2568/2569/2570/2571/2572/2573/2574/2575/2576/2577/2578/2579/2580/2581/2582/2583/2584/2585/2586/2587/2588/2589/2590/2591/2592/2593/2594/2595/2596/2597/2598/2599/2600/2601/2602/2603/2604/2605/2606/2607/2608/2609/2610/2611/2612/2613/2614/2615/2616/2617/2618/2619/2620/2621/2622/2623/2624/2625/2626/2627/2628/2629/2630/2631/2632/2633/2634/2635/2636/2637/2638/2639/2640/2641/2642/2643/2644/2645/2646/2647/2648/2649/2650/2651/2652/2653/2654/2655/2656/2657/2658/2659/2660/2661/2662/2663/2664/2665/2666/2667/2668/2669/2670/2671/2672/2673/2674/2675/2676/2677/2678/2679/2680/2681/2682/2683/2684/2685/2686/2687/2688/2689/2690/2691/2692/2693/2694/2695/2696/2697/2698/2699/2700/2701/2702/2703/2704/2705/2706/2707/2708/2709/2710/2711/2712/2713/2714/2715/2716/2717/2718/2719/2720/2721/2722/2723/2724/2725/2726/2727/2728/2729/2730/2731/2732/2733/2734/2735/2736/2737/2738/2739/2740/2741/2742/2743/2744/2745/2746/2747/2748/2749/2750/2751/2752/2753/2754/2755/2756/2757/2758/2759/2760/2761/2762/2763/2764/2765/2766/2767/2768/2769/2770/2771/2772/2773/2774/2775/2776/2777/2778/2779/2780/2781/2782/2783/2784/2785/2786/2787/2788/2789/2790/2791/2792/2793/2794/2795/2796/2797/2798/2799/2800/2801/2802/2803/2804/2805/2806/2807/2808/2809/2810/2811/2812/2813/2814/2815/2816/2817/2818/2819/2820/2821/2822/2823/2824/2825/2826/2827/2828/2829/2830/2831/2832/2833/2834/2835/2836/2837/2838/2839/2840/2841/2842/2843/2844/2845/2846/2847/2848/2849/2850/2851/2852/2853/2854/2855/2856/2857/2858/2859/2860/2861/2862/2863/2864/2865/2866/2867/2868/2869/2870/2871/2872/2873/2874/2875/2876/2877/2878/2879/2880/2881/2882/2883/2884/2885/2886/2887/2888/2889/2890/2891/2892/2893/2894/2895/2896/2897/2898/2899/2900/2901/2902/2903/2904/2905/2906/2907/2908/2909/2910/2911/2912/2913/2914/2915/2916/2917/2918/2919/2920/2921/2922/2923/2924/2925/2926/2927/2928/2929/2930/2931/2932/2933/2934/2935/2936/2937/2938/2939/2940/2941/2942/2943/2944/2945/2946/2947/2948/2949/2950/2951/2952/2953/2954/2955/2956/2957/2958/2959/2960/2961/2962/2963/2964/2965/2966/2967/2968/2969/2970/2971/2972/2973/2974/2975/2976/2977/2978/2979/2980/2981/2982/2983/2984/2985/2986/2987/2988/2989/2990/2991/2992/2993/2994/2995/2996/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